FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

16 FEBRUARY 1984

Iran-Iraq War

Iranian forces have begun the first phase of a new offensive, the Val-Fajr V operation, in the Changuleh sector between Mehran and Dehloran in Iran and between Al-Kut and Al-'Amarah in Iraq, Tehran radio reported. Iranian troops are currently advancing with "complete superiority" toward predetermined goals, killing a "large number" of Iraqi troops and successfully liberating one height in the process, IRNA and Tehran radio announced. A military spokesman, in a statement broadcast by Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio, said the offensive has been contained by Iraqi border units which destroyed a "major part" of the attacking force.

In a related development, a military spokesman announced the destruction of seven Iranian "naval targets" in the Khowr-e Musa area of the Gulf by the Iraqi Navy and Air Force, Baghdad radio reported.

Meanwhile, an Iraqi military source, in a statement to INA, denied Iranian claims of a 16 February Iraqi air raid on the city of Mehran in violation of the 1-week moratorium declared against such attacks. A military source also denied Iranian reports that Abadan and Khorramshahr were shelled, INA reported. Iran's claims that its forces are now in control of the Darband-i Khan region were similarly denied by a military spokesman, INA said. Such "lies" are merely attempts to divert the Iranian people's attention from the deteriorating situation in their own country.

Iranian planes bombed military and civilian installations in Al-'Amarah and Al-Kut, the 15 February communique of the Joint Staff of the Iranian Armed Forces broadcast by Tehran radio announced. All aircraft returned safely to base after destroying all preselected targets, the communique added.

Lebanon

Military Situation — Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) forces captured Ad-Damur and Al-Mishrif, coastal towns south of Beirut, the PSP's clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio announced on 15 February. Voice of Lebanon radio admitted that both the Phalangist militia and the Lebanese Army have withdrawn to positions south of the Ad-Damur River. The clandestine Radio Free Lebanon confirmed that the PSP and its allies have cut the coastal highway at Ad-Damur. Both the Phalangist radios cited Lebanese Government warnings that the United States will intervene to stop any offensive against government-controlled areas in Greater Beirut.

Earlier, officers and soldiers of the 43d Battalion of the Lebanese Army's 4th Brigade issued a statement, broadcast by Voice of the Mountain, declaring their solidarity with units which have refused to fight and pledging their loyalty to Army Chief of Staff Major General Nadim Hakim.

Political Developments — If President Amin al-Jumayyil abrogates the agreement with Israel, this will not absolve him of responsibility for the "massacres and crimes" committed against the Lebanese people, and therefore "we renew our demand for removing Amin al-Jumayyil and foiling his course," PSP leader Walid Junblatt declared in a statement broadcast by Voice of the Mountain. There will be "no solution, no dialogue, no accord" with the Phalange Party and Al-Jumayyil in power, Junblatt reaffirmed, and while the PSP will accept a Christian president, it does not want a Phalangist president. Junblatt also said that Maj Gen Ha[illegible]m will shortly hold contacts with other "national" officers to form a national army command. Junblatt stressed his support for Palestinian rights, but added that he will not allow West Beirut to return to the state that preceded the Israeli invasion in 1982. The PSP and its allies will hold talks with Fatah dissident leaders to "specify the roles and to tell them that their best shield is the Lebanese national forces," Junblatt said.

Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri held talks with the U.S. ambassador which both men described as "useful," according to Beirut radio. Voice of Lebanon radio said President al-Jumayyil sent envoys to Arab and Western capitals for further consultations before taking "a political decision." Radio Free Lebanon, on the other hand, cited press reports that Al-Jumayyil expressed resentment over reports that he will soom make a "fateful decision," saying people should not be given an impression of decisions that "do not exist." Meanwhile, Phalangist leader Pierre al-Jumayyil emphasized that the Lebanese-Israeli agreement is "the only course" for Lebanon's salvation, the radio noted.

Israeli Position — If Lebanon abrogates its agreement with Israel, the latter will remain in control of a security zone in southern Lebanon "for some time to come" to protect against terrorist attacks, Defense Minister Moshe Arens told presidents of U.S. Jewish organizations in remarks reported by Jerusalem radio. Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee Chairman Eliyahu Ben-Elisar said in an interview with the radio's Arabic service that the "new situation" in Lebanon obliges Israel to retain its forces there, although he added that he does not consider the Al-Awwali River Israel's permanent border. The Israeli Government will decide the "ideal borders" for Israel, he said, and there are some areas to which the IDF may have to advance, and not withdraw.

Syria

Iranian Embassy Bomb — The "Arab Organization of 5 May" claimed responsibility for the parcel bomb which wounded the Iranian ambassador to Damascus, Radio Monte Carlo reported.

U.S. Visitor — Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam discussed the Middle East situation with visiting U.S. Congressman Wyche Fowler, Damascus radio noted

Libya

Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, in a speech to the General People's Congress broadcast live by Tripoli radio, announced that the basic people's congresses have rejected a draft law calling for an "armed people," preferring instead the present system of conscription. Therefore, the program of military training in girls schools will be ended and women will be ineligible for military service, he said.

Pakistan

Pakistan has acquired a "very modest capability" to enrich uranium, President Mohammad Ziaul Haq disclosed at a news conference reported by Karachi radio.

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Arab League Issues Statement on Iraq-Iran War

JN151101 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0853 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Tunis, 15 Feb (INA) — The Arab League General Secretariat has said that the recent aggravation in the Iraqi-Iranian war has increased the world's responsibility toward this conflict.

In a statement issued here today, the Arab League reacted to the Iranian regime's escalation of its aggression against Iraq and said that the serious threats that are inherent in this conflict are endangering the entire region and world peace. The Arab League statement stressed that the current situation demands from the world states and peoples creative efforts to silence the war machines and support the cause of peace. It called on the world to use all its legitimate economic and political means as well as the media toward this end. The statement expressed the Arab League's readiness to exert its efforts in cooperation with all the international and regional organizations, taking into consideration the interests and security of the Iraqi and Iranian peoples.

The Arab League General Secretariat's statement said that the whole world, which welcomed Iraq's calls for peace, for a halt to war and destruciton, and for solving the two countries' differences by peaceful means, hopes that Iran will respond to the aspirations of the Arab and Islamic nations and the peace-loving states in the world, who share with the Iraqi and Iranian peoples the pain of this war, and put a speedy end to this war.

The statement said in conclusion: The Arab countries, including Iraq, are serious in their attempts to develop their social life in a climate of stability and peace. They are not a force of aggression but a force of peace, brotherhood, and cooperation.

KUNA: Egypt To Participate in Two Arab Meetings

LD151245 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1225 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Tunis, 15 Feb (KUNA) — Parliamentary sources said here today that Egypt will take part in two parliamentary meetings, one an Arab-African meeting and the second a purely Arab meeting, due to take place in the Tunisian capital in March and May. These sources said that an Egyptian parliamentary delegation will participate in the Arab-African conference scheduled to begin in Tunis on 12 March. An Egyptian delegation will also take part in the Arab conference on housing and development in the Arab world scheduled to be held in Tunis in May under the patronage of the Tunisian House of Representatives, the ICO, the Arab League and the UN Commission for Housing and Reconstruction.

'Arafat Meets Nicaraguan President in Moscow

JN151813 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] met at noon today in Moscow with Nicaraguan President Ortega. The meeting lasted for 1 hour. Present at the meeting on the Palestinian side were Brothers Abu Mazin [Mahmud 'Abbas] and 'Abd ar-Rahim Ahmad, members of the PLO Executive Committee; and the acting PLO representative in Moscow. Earlier today, Brother Abu 'Ammar met with representatives of the Palestinian students studying in the USSR. He explained to them the latest developments on the Palestine question and the dimensions of the new events in the Arab and international arenas.

Further on 'Arafat Speech to Student Organization

LD151405 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 14 Feb 84

["Second and final part" of speech by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat at opening of ninth congress of Palestine students in Algiers on 12 February — recorded]

[Excerpts] Yes, this revolution will triumph. He who imagines that by controling one or two refugee camps, he can also destroy the revolution is deluding himself. Israel is occupying all the land and all the camps on the occupied soil. Why could it not then destroy the revolution? They are deluding themselves. Do they think that the Palestinian revolution is going to submit under threat and say yes to Reagan? That it will submit under threat and say yes to Camp David or the conspiracies around us? No, the Palestinian revolution will not submit. The Palestinian revolution is a giant. It is a giant. A mountain is not going to be shaken by the wind. You know this. They won't have any effect on us. Let them plan and do what they like. We are sure of our steps.

You know that Tripoli — the place where we were besieged — is 3 kilometers by 1.5 kilometers. This is all of Tripoli. After the French and Greek military and diplomats departed, I was at the port. They were gone in about 30 minutes. They came at 0600 and left at 0630. After they left, there was a night air raid at 0705. Night air raids were very rare. The raiders came in six planes. They did not fire anything. Since there was a night air raid, we said that probably [words indistinct] the vessels were supposed to arrive at 0230 with the departure to take place from 0430 to 0500. But at 0800, after we made the decision, we contacted the Cypriot Government via our office and requested them not to send the ships. [times as heard] The director of the office said how can this be. The vessels will be sailing in half an hour. I told him that they would probably need another 30 minutes before they could leave. You can still make it. He implored my Cypriot brothers to agree to this as a favor because we smelled a treachery. At 0505 exactly — I was actually saying the dawn prayers — the most violent naval raid took place. It destroyed four ships. It sank two, burned one and destroyed the grain silos. They left nothing in the town or the port.

The date and time of the raid happened to be the time of the departure which we had canceled during the night. The rest of the world, the United Nations, the French, the Greeks and the newsmen knew this was the time of our departure. This would have been a massacre. It was the most violent naval raid on the port. Afterward the mines which we expected them to drop on the port began to explode inside the port every 30 minutes.

After all this and the explosions which took place, I decided for the first time to contact the Egyptian Government officially. In actual fact, I contacted them personally at 1100. Before that, we used to contact them for assistance through the Egyptian patri-

otic movement. A representative of this movement was present with my brothers in Tunis to follow things and to act as a liaison with the Egyptian Government. I contacted him and told him: Convey an official message to the president from me that I am asking my brothers to provide me with support to protect our withdrawal. I told him that this is because it appears that if we had left today there would have been a massacre. I said that there is treachery. I would like the president to tell me if we can leave or not. At 0630 my brother Lutfi al-Khuli — and you all know him — was with my brothers in Tunis. He told me that he had received news from Cairo that the Egyptian Government had officially decided to provide this support. About 2 or 3 hours later, Dr Usamah al-Baz contacted me officially and told me that the Egyptian National Security Council had met and decided to provide full protection, in cooperation with the French, for the Palestine forces. The Egytpian fleet or vessels of the Egyptian fleet were on their way to me.

The cease-fire they talked about did not exist. We withdrew and some brothers here who are Jarmaq students, you know that the Jarmaq regiment is a studens unit, defended the rear of the withdrawal. They continued fighting until they boarded the vessels. All this is to explain how the withdrawal from Tripoli took place. We were fighting until the last moment.

When I arrived in Port Said, I disembarked. I was one those who fought in Port Said in 1956. They handed me the key to the city. Later I returned to the ship with my brothers and then we went to Ismailia. There we received an official Egyptian reception. The prime minister, the acting foreign minister, military men, and politicians also gave me the shield and key to the town and said some good words. Please come down into town. Ismailia welcomes you. By the way, Ismailia used to be the headquarters of the 'Ali 'Ali Amir command to which I used to be attached during the 1956 aggression. I am a bit old compared to some brothers here. Only the old people now present might remember this.

I was going to say that after this they asked me if I wanted anything. I told them [words indistinct] some people said that the Egyptians had asked [words indistinct]. No, they did not ask me. I told Usamah: I want to disembark in order to go and thank the president for his protection 2 days ago. Now while I am passing through his territory for about 24 hours — it takes 24 hours to cross the Suez Canal — I cannot go without thanking him. It would be chivalrous to disembark and go and thank him for pvroviding this protection. As a matter of fact, we did go. This visit, about which so much fuss was made, took place. Even now you do not want to calm down. Even Nasir [one of the congress participants] rebuked me about it. Afterward, I left for Suez and from there I embarked on the vessel.

I would like to say one thing. Before I left, a senior officer escorted me to the ship. He said to me: Abu 'Ammar, I would like to thank you in the name of the Egyptian Army, which has been placed on a state of alert against Israel for the first time since the Camp David accords. Why? You might think that the decision was an ordinary decision, a political decision, a decision made to protect military forces in a state of war with Israel. These Palestinian forces are in a state of war with Israel and they were protected by forces which supposedly have the Camp David agreement. This means that the plan was against the Israeli forces. To protect us from whom? From the Israeli forces. Is this not a breach of Camp David? I beleive that it is a breach of Camp David. It is part of a breach of Camp David.

The road is hard, difficult and long. I say to our people that what is required after all in the post-Beirut events, after the epic battle of Beirut, is that the people must (?remain vigilant). The most magnificent thing happened — and it contradictswhat they thought, namely, that this people were going to submit and collapse — the miracle occurred in the middle of these difficult and hard times at the Arab and interantional levels.

We have seen the real help. It came from our people who are under the occupation. I do not forget the Red Cross. They came to me while we were under siege and told me: A number of your leaders in the occupied area contacted us. They have 150 tons of food supplies which they want to send to you and to the al-Baddawi and Nahr al-Barid camps. These words can never be forgotten. The hungry inside the occupation [words indistinct]. There is a conspiracy to starve our folk inside the occupation. There are 38 types of tax paid by citizens inside the occupied soil. Nevertheless, they still stand their ground. There is a conspiracy to devour the land through confiscation.

But there is even a greater conspiracy; that is, moving the camps to the Jordan valley. This is the new conspiracy which they have begun to carry out. One of the camps has actually been moved to the Jordan valley. Why? Because what is coming is grave.

One has only to fire two shots and these refugees pay the price. They are (?deported) from the West Bank to the East Bank. I say this so that we understand the conspiracy being hatched against us. The conspiracy has not ended. The conspiracy has not ended at all. There is a buffer state. It will be created in order to protect Israel.

The revolution will triumph because it has people who say that the revolution will continue. It will triumph because of you, the new generation. You bury your martyrs and then you smile and say: Are there any more? Brothers, this revolution will triumph. The glory in our occupied soil will triumph over Satan. I know that the battle is ferocious, hard and difficult. I know this. I also know that we are on the way to Palestine. Our revolution is not by accident. I would like to remind you that Kirkpatrick, the U.S. UN delegate, said that international terrorism consists of three things, the Soviet Union, the PLO and Cuba, in Central America. This means that we have fingers in Central America, in El Salvador, and other places.

We say it very proudly: Your revolution is with all the free and upright men in the world — in America, in Asia and in Africa; with every free and honorable person; with every libration revolution; with the oppressed; with the free men; with the revolutionaries, side by side with them. This is your revolution of which you are proud. Your revolution is paying the price for these stands. Yet despite this, we still persist along our difficult, hard and long road. We are with free men, honorable men, militants and revolutionaries everywhere and in every spot in the world. We know that we pay in blood for this talk. We do not receive flowery words for it. We know that we pay in blood. Kirkpatrick said so in the United Nations. She threatened us and the threat

still stands, brothers. We must understand this onslaught against us. We are with all the free and upright men in the world. This revolution is going to triumph because it is the will of the free and upright people.

No one can transgress against the independent Palestinian decisionmaking because the children who throw grenades and the children who throw stones are defending this Palestinian independent decisionmaking. Everyone far and near must understand this equation. Our children are defending our decisionmaking. This decisionmaking is not the property of this or that leader, but it is the property of the child who carries the grenade, who carries the stone and who challenges with his small body the U.S.-Israeli war machine on our occupied soil. [applause]

Despite all the conspiracy and the conspirators, brothers, this revolution will continue to march on its road. You must cling to it doggedly. Stick to the rifle stubbornly. The conspiracy wants to take the rifle away from you. Stick to it doggedly. The conspiracy pursues us with assassins. The conspiracy wants the head of this revolution. It wants your heads one by one. Stick to your rifle stubbornly. The conspiracy wants this rifle. I tell them in the name of these revolutionaries, in the name of all our martyrs, our wounded, our detainees and free men inside the Arab and Israeli detention prisons, regrettably, I say to them in the name of all these, that this revolution is a giant. It will continue on its path to Palestine, to Jerusalem, to Jerusalem, to Jerusalem! [applause]

Baghdad PLO Radio on Current Lebanese Situation

JN152307 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1632 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Brothers, there are hints that the Lebanese crisis will be solved. These hints have been underlined in open statements by Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri. They were also indirectly touched on in President al-Jumayyil's reform plan and his meeting with former President Franjiyah. The hints can also be seen in what is being reiterated regarding the possibility of abrogating the Lebanese-Israeli agreement. From a realistic point of view, one can notice that the aforementioned hints are further confirmed by the U.S. forces' withdrawal from Beirut.

This withdrawal could mean that the U.S. Administration has given up its unsuccessful plan to impose Phalangist rule in Lebanon and to preserve privileges that are no longer acceptable in the Lebanese equation. One can still notice that the internal forces in Lebanon are now enjoying a balance of power in the sectarian and geographical spheres, and that this balance of power is parallel to the internal powers' political and military weight. All of this opens the doors for the various parties to hold a reasonable dialogue and find a reasonable solution.

President al-Jumayyil's reform plan and his meeting with former President Frajiyah, as well as the possible abrogation of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement indicate that the Phalangist party has realized that it is impossible to fulfill its ambitions of having absolute power in Lebanon under the protection of Israeli and U.S. interference. However, we must not forget that these Lebanese internal developments — which herald positive developments — hide the dimensions of other foreign powers, and that the designs, ambitions, and weight of these foreign powers have great impact on any possible future developments. Consequently, one may confirm that the recent Israeli threats are the most dangerous.

Shamir has reasserted that any abrogation of the Israeli- Lebanese agreement will mean that Israel keeps its forces in southern Lebanon indefinitely. If this threat is implemented, it will mean geographically and politically separating southern Lebanon from northern Lebanon. It will be impossible for the Israeli forces stationed in southern Lebanon to maintain the area's connection with the rest of Lebanon should any nationalist developments take place in the northern areas of Lebanon. This development would mean the beginning of the partitioning of Lebanon. The partitioning could extend to areas other than southern Lebanon, particularly since the Phalangist Party maintains strong ties with the Zionist entity. For example, it was announced yesterday that the Phalange Party's temporary office in Israel has become a permanent representative office.

The Israeli threat might not be of any significant value. However, this demands the existence of the following two things: First, that all of the Lebanese powers and sects agree on their unity on the one hand, and on their Arab ties on the other. If this happens, then their struggle to liberate southern Lebanon will be successful. The second thing is related to Syria, because it has the choice of linking its security either to the enemy or to the Lebanese people's right to liberate their homeland. This objective of liberation can only be achieved through fighting. Actually, Syria is not clear on this point. On the one hand, it is supporting the internal Lebanese fighting; on the other, it is drawing up a quiet security zone in Al-Biqa' and southern Lebanon, just as it has done in the Golan.

The possibility that the hints about a positive development will materialize depends primarily on the Lebanese sides' intentions and, in one way or another, on the Syrian intentions as well. Until all of these intentions become clear, Lebanon fluctuates between achieving its unity and reconstruction on the one hand, or its partitioning and collapse on the other.

Israeli Military Position Attacked Near Tyre

JN151811 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] The Palestinian and Lebanese nationalist resistance have attacked a Zionist military position near Al-Buss Camp in the suburbs of Tyre, in southern Lebanon. The attack completely destroyed the position, killing or wounding all of the enemy soldiers inside. Admitting the attack, a spokesman for the invasion forces said that there were no casualties among his forces. He added that the Zionist forces opened indiscriminate machine gun fire in all directions and mopped up the area in search for the attackers, who managed to return safely to base.

Gulf Affairs

Gulf Market Said Free of Israeli Products

GF311224 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0855 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Doha, 31 Jan (WAKH) — An official source at the Israel boycott office in the State of Qatar has stated that the Gulf market is free of any Israeli-made products. He said: What was being disseminated about there being a leak of Israeli-made goods into the Gulf countries is merely a psychological war which the Zionist enemy is launching in order to create doubts among the Arab citizens and thus cause them despair.

In a statement to the Qatari newspaper *AR-RAYAH*, published today, the source said that the boycott groups only allowed the import of citrus products from the West Bank and Gaza Strip in order to enhance the steadfastness of the people in the occupied territories and to assist the Arab farmers there after the enemy tightened its grip on the products and the industries of the occupied territories.

BAHRAIN

Amir Congratulates USSR's Chernenko on Election

GF160431 Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English 16-17 Feb 84 p 5

[Excerpt] HH the Amir Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah yesterday sent a cable of congratulations to Konstantin Chernenko to mark his election as general secretary of the CPSU.

KUWAIT

AL-QABAS Calls for Arab Role in U.S. Elections

GF311540 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 30 Jan 84 p 1

[Editorial: "For the Sake of Arab Participation in the U.S. Presidential Elections"]

[Excerpts] The U.S. presidential elections will affect the fate of nations and many regions in the world for the next 4 years. Thus, the presidential elections in the United States are not merely domestic affairs, but are a battle in which effective foreign powers indirectly participate through various negative or positive means.

Traditionally, the Arab world has not effectively participated in U.S. presidential elections, as some other blocs have — Europe and the socialist bloc, for example. With all its states, our Arab world adopts a negative and ineffective stance, and votes with carte blanche in the presidential elections. It adopts the role of observer and expects relief with every new president. But this relief never comes! Every U.S. president who has come to the White House for over 30 years has become more audacious in announcing his support for Israel and taking an aggressive stance against the Arabs.

Arabs today can influence both the U.S. voter and the elected president, despite the dreadful Arab disintegration. We believe that Arabs can effect the required influence if they agree to hold an Arab summit, which should have one topic on its agenda: "Reviewing and reassessing U.S. policy in the Middle East." We believe that countries which have been obstructing the convocation of the Arab summit cannot excuse themselves from attending a summit which would have this topic as a main topic. Announcing the desire of all Arab countries to review U.S. policy in the region will resound deeply in the United States, and the American media will give full coverage to this new Arab stand.

If the Arabs were able to succeed in adopting a unified peace plan at the recent Fes summit, then it would not be difficult for them to reach a declaration of principles within the same framework which would pressure current U.S. election candidates, and would also be a unified program to deal with the new president, whether Reagan succeeds in being reelected or someone else comes to the White House.

OMAN

Jordanian Court Official Departs After Visit

GF311607 Manama WAKH in English 1530 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Muscat, 31 Jan (WAKH) — Head of the Jordanian Royal Court, Marwan al-Qasim, left here today after a 2-day visit to Oman. The Jordanian official delivered a written message to H.M. Sultan Qabus of Oman from King Husayn of Jordan dealing with the latest Arab developments and bilateral relations.

PDRY

YSP Secretary General Congratulates Chernenko

GF151820 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text of cable sent from 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, YSP Secretary Genral, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, to Konstantin Chernenko]

[Text] On the occasion of your election as general secretary of the CPSU Central Commitee, it pleases me — on behalf of the YSP Central Commitee, the Supreme People's Council Presidium and the Council of Ministers and on my personal behalf — to convey to you the warmest comradely congratulations for the great confidence entrusted in you by the CPSU Central Committee and by all the Soviet communists. We are certain that through your new position in the leadership of the CPSU Central Committee, you will continue your great contributions to the struggle to implement the party's Leninist policy that is pursued by the CPSU and Soviet state in order to guarantee the accomplishment of the tasks proposed by the party's 26th congress in this regard in a manner that guarantees consolidating the economic and military superiority of the Soviet people and the world's socialist system as well as consolidating the foundations of the struggle by the world's revolutionary movement and the nations that struggle for national liberation and social progress in the cause of bolster-

ing international peace and deterring the aggressive inclination of the imperialist circles.

I wish to seize this opportunity to express my complete confidence that the strategic relationships between our parties, peoples, and countries, which have been progressing in recent years, will be strengthened and consolidated more and more in the present and in the future in the service of our peoples and their common struggle. As I wish you good luck and success in your new noble tasks, I wish you an abudance of health and happiness, and wish the Soviet people continuing progress and prosperity.

YAR President, Large Delegation Begin Visit

Arrival Reported

GF151420 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Brother 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress in the northern part of the homeland, arrived in Aden at 1500 today, heading a big delegation to the meetings of the second session of the Supreme Yemeni Council. Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, led those who welcomed him. He was also welcomed by a number of brother members of the YSP Political Bureau and Central Committee; and a number of senior party and state officials.

Leaders' Meeting

GF151836 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Excerpt] A meeting was held between Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih after the arrival of the two leaders' motorcade at the residence of Brother 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih. During the meeting, the two leaders held consultations on the issues that the second session of the Supreme Yemeni Council will discuss during its meetings which will begin today. The meeting was attended by both sides who will participate in the upcoming session.

Supreme Yemini Council Meets

GF151840 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Excerpt] The first round of the second session of the Supreme Yemeni Council began at the Presidium Secretariat at 1830 today. The round was chaired by Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers; and Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress in the northern part of the homeland.

YAR President Addresses Council

GF152030 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Speech by Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress in the YAR, during first round of second session of Supreme Yemeni Council at Presidium Secretariat — recorded]

[Excerpt] The Yemeni Council is being held at a time of complicated and difficult circumstances through which our Arab and Islamic homeland and the international community is passing through. Let us go back to 1982, when the Zionist invasion of fraternal Lebanon began and when this Muslim and Arab country — where a number of religions exist — was shelled and the Palestinian revolution was attacked in a big conspiracy.

As Brother 'Ali Nasir has stressed, coordination is very useful. One of the most important aspects of coordination between the two parts was the move on the summit level in order to rescue the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese people from a conspicuous Zionist invasion supported by imperialist countries. Thank God, this was an excellent move which shows the Yemeni nobility and the coordination of our stances in our foreign policies. And now, O brothers, all our Yemeni people in the two parts — we do not address you as two delegations but as the the Yemeni people in the two parts — we move and we shall move, thanks to the coordination of the honorable stances of Yemen's foreign policy on the level of the two parts.

Our relations will be excellent with all the countries of the world provided that this does not harm Yemen's sovereignty and independence or concede an inch, whatever the price, and I am confident of the response of all our masses in the two parts.

PDRY Chairman Addresses Council

GF152020 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Speech by 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, at start of first round of second session of Supreme Yemeni Council at Presidium Secretariat on 15 February — recorded]

[Excerpts] Because the Yemeni Council represents a more advanced form of the unity work and coordination between the two parts of the homeland, the regularity of its periodic meetings has a great national importance because our Yemeni people are setting great hopes on the Council's meetings, regarding it a symbol of the unity work which embodies the safeguarding of the accomplishments achieved by the 26 September and 14 October revolutions and the preservation of the people's national sovereignty. It also gives a new momentum to the diligent activity of the two leaderships in order to adopt further serious and effective steps on the way to achieving the most precious national goals of the Yemeni people which is represented in the reunification of the homeland on peaceful and democratic bases.

Brother President, you know that the deteriorating Arab situation has begun to worry us because it not only threatens one Arab country but threatens all the Arab peoples. We, as part of the peoples of the Arab countries, should continue to implement our pan-Arab commitments. The recent period has witnessed a successful coordination between the two parts on a number of incidents in the Arab region, particularly the situation in the Lebanese, Palestinian, and Syrian arenas.

I would like to affirm that we will resume our fraternal support for and solidarity with Syria in order to strengthen its heroic steadfastness, and with the Lebanese national movement which bravely resists the Zionist invaders and the U.S. military presence in Lebanon and struggles for Lebanon's unity and the preservation of its Arabism.

We have great confidence that our Arab peoples will achieve victory in resisting this insolent U.S.-Zionist hostility which the Arab region is facing. They will achieve victory because we are not alone; we are not alone in our battles against this U.S.-Zionist strategic alliance, but we have friends who provide support and aid to our Arab peoples. Those friends are the Soviet Union, the socialist countries and all the freedom and peace-loving forces in the world.

Fatah's Salah Khalaf Departs After Visit

GF311344 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Brother Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, Fatah Central Committee member, left Aden this morning after concluding his visit of several days to the PDRY. During his visit, he held talks and consultations with party and state leaders on the recent developments in the Palestinian arena and the nature of the conspiracies intended to strike at and liquidate the Palestinian revolution.

SAUDI ARABIA

Beirut Envoy 'Urgently' Summoned for Consultations

NC151728 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] We have just learned that the Saudi authorities have urgently summoned their ambassador in Beirut, Ahmad al-Kuhaymi, for consultations.

U.S. shelling 'Enflames' Lebanon Situation

LD151811 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Abdullah Sulayman al-Khurayyis commentary]

[Excerpts] The Lebanese national forces have taken control of a number of positions from the Lebanese Army. The U.S. ships once again opened fire on Al-Jabal. The National Salvation Front is calling for abrogation of the agreement with Israel.

Observers believe that the intervention of U.S. warships by shelling the national positions in Al-Jabal will not restore currently divided Beirut to the way it was before 6 February, as it also increases the complexity of the issue and further enflames the situation. The U.S. forces, observers say, have altered their original mission as one of the forces in the Multinational Force charged with maintaining peace in Beirut.

This alteration was announced by U.S. Secretary of the Navy John Lehman. He confirmed yesterday that U.S. warships are now shelling regions in Lebanon in support of the Lebanese Army and not to protect the U.S. Marines stationed in Beirut as part of the Multinational Force.

Observers say that this fact announced by Lehman is diametrically opposite White House statements that the guns of the U.S. 6th Fleet, some units of which are stationed facing the Lebanese coast, will be aimed at the positions of the national Lebanese forces only if U.S. Marines who are within the perimeter of Beirut International Airport, are exposed to attacks by these forces.

In the midst of this situation and changing events and conditions, attention is seriously focused on finding a peaceful solution. Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil has taken significant steps in this sphere. He held meetings with the U.S. ambassador to Beirut, as well as Kamil Sham'un, the former president and leader of the Lebanese Front; Pierre al-Jumayyil, leader of the Phalange Party; and former Lebanese President Sulayman Franjiyah, whose organization is part of the National Salvation Front with the rest of the Lebanese national forces. This step by President al-Jumayyil indicates his full conviction that the solution is not a military one.

AR-RIYAD Views 'Failure' of Tripartite Meeting

GF160653 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 16 Feb 84

[From press review]

[Text] In its editorial, the newspaper *AR-RIYAD* talked about the failure of the Washington tripartite meeting in reaching a new initiative for peace in the Middle East. The paper said: The halt of the Washington talks between U.S. President Reagan on the one side and King Husayn and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak on the other side on the Middle East problem — although there was more than one way to breakthrough regarding bilateral relations — was because of the differences of opinions. These differences are historical, in that the United States sees the region's conflict as between Tel Aviv and its Arab neighbors, while the Arab side believes that the party which suffers most from the Israeli occupation and settlements is the Palestinian people and that Israel's border wars with the Arab group continued only because of the Palestinian refugee and his need for his land.

U.S. Congress Members Meet With Leaders

Meet Minister of Defense

LD160032 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1100 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Riyadh, 15 Feb (SPA) — His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector general, received at noon today in his office at the ministry chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee Senator John Tower, Republican representative from Arizona John McCain and the accompanying delegation. Bilateral relations and matters of mutual interest were reviewed during the meeting. U.S. embassy charge (Ricky Sadret) attended the meeting.

Crown Prince Receives Delegation

GF151640 Jidda Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Crown Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz received today Senator John Tower, member of the U.S. Senate and chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, and his accompanying delegation. Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, defense minister, and inspector general, also received at lunchtime in his highness' office at the ministry Senator John Tower, John McCain, Republican representative from Arizona, and their accompanying delegation. During the two meetings bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest were discussed. The two meetings were attended by (Ricky Sadret), U.S. charge d'affaires to the Kingdom.

Foreign Minister Meets Officials

GF151636 Jidda Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister, met with Senator John Tower, chairman of the U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee; John McCain, Republican representative of Arizona, and their accompanying delegation. During the meeting relations between the Kingdom and the United States and issues of mutual interest were discussed. His Highness the foreign minister explained during the meeting Saudi Arabia's stance on current issues in the Middle East, primarily events in Lebanon and developments in the Palestinian cause. The meeting was attended by (Ricky Sadret), U.S. charge d'affaires to the Kingdom.

Crown Prince To Make Official Visit to UK

GF131910 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 13 Feb 84

[Text] His Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Sa'ud, crown prince, deputy prime minister, and head of the National Guard, will pay an official visit to the United Kingdom at the invitation of the British prime minister 22-24 February.

MENA Reports President Mubarak's Return to Cairo

JN151235 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1225 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Cairo, 15 Feb (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak returned to the homeland at 1330 today from Washington after a 3-day visit to the United States which concluded his current foreign tour that included visits to Zaire, Kenya, Somalia, Tanzania, Morocco, Sudan, and France. He was received on arrival at Cairo International Airport by Prime Minister Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din.

In reply to questions from the press on whether he discussed a dialogue with the PLO during his talks with the U.S. side, President Mubarak said: We put them in the picture as part of our view on how to push the peace process ahead. However, they must decide whether or not they will accept this idea. This is our opinion; we cannot ignore those people who should participate in one way or another. We insist on this, and look forward to achieving a comprehensive settlement.

On whether he sensed any change on the part of the U.S. Administration regarding the Palestinian problem, the president said: No, I have not sensed any change thus far.

On whether progress can be achieved in the coming months through a moderate Arab initiative in which Jordan's King Husayn and 'Arafat would participate without U.S. recognition of the PLO, President Muhammad Husni Mubarak said: If we can succeed in moving ahead in the sphere pf cooperation between King Husayn of Jordan and PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, then this will greatly help in initiating the negotiations.

On whether U.S. President Ronald Reagan's peace initiative in the Middle East still constitutes a suitable basis for initiating negotiations, or whether it is necessary to amend that initiative, President Mubarak said: The foreign minister can answer that question.

On the basic points on which agreement has been reached between him, King Husayn, and President Reagan, the president said: We agreed to push the peace process ahead, and the quicker the better. We also discussed the question of coordinating our moves with the Palestinians.

Mubarak WASHINGTON POST Interview Reported

JN152026 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1500 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Washington, 15 Feb (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has again called for Israel's total withdrawal from Lebanon. He also called for beginning work to solve the Palestinian question, considering it the crux of the problem, after finding a way to link Jordan's King Husayn and PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat.

The president said solving the Palestinian question should not be postponed until a solution of the Lebanese crisis is reached, because the two are one process.

President Husni Mubarak expressed his belief that the Palestinians will meet with King Husayn very shortly, and said: We will try to offer help in this regard. He also expressed his belief that King Husayn is exerting his utmost efforts to achieve coordination in this regard with Yasir 'Arafat, because this is now the only road.

Interviewed by Stephen Rosenfeld, deputy editorial page editor of *THE WASHINGTON POST*, the president said we should achieve progress vis-a-vis the Palestinian question this year regardless of the circumstances. He indicated that if this does not occur, 1985 will be more complicated and the matter will require many more efforts because settlements will be spread everywhere.

Regarding the democratic transformation in Egypt, President Mubarak stressed he is exerting his utmost for democracy. He said: We have not witnessed such freedom since the monarchic regime. The masses say what they want and there are no restrictions whatsoever except on what conflicts with the law. Replying to a question on the forthcoming elections, he said he is looking forward to a good opposition.

The following is the text of President Mubarak's interview, as published today on one entire page of *THE WASHINGTON POST*:

Question: I hope you would talk briefly about the democratic transformation in Egypt and the depth of the current commitment to it.

Answer: I am exerting my utmost efforts for the sake of democracy. We have not witnessed such freedom since the monarchic regime. The masses say what they want and there are no restrictions whatsoever, except on what conflicts with the law.

Question: Do you expect parliamentary elections shortly, and are you waiting for the emergence of a strong oppostion?

Answer: I am looking forward to a good opposition.

Question: Why?

Answer: The opposition always helps in the progress of the state. I believe that whenever there is opposition to the government, any error can be immediately rectified. We are the only state in the region that adopts such a democracy.

Question: Do you think the consequences of what is taking place in Lebanon do not particularly concern Egypt?

Answer: The matter is that the Lebanese crisis commenced with the Israeli invasion. I told Ari'el Sharon, former Israeli defense minister, and the Israelis several times: Do not think at all ofinvading or attacking Lebanon. I told them such a matter would lead to nothing.

Question: What was their response?

Answer: They said there were terrorists and they used — as you are familar with — the same expressions on terrorism and

terrorists. However, I indicated to them several times and said: I hope you will give the matter due consideration; otherwise, it will turn into a catastrophe. But they didn't listen. I told the Americans — and the U.S. secretary of state at that time, Alexander Haig: It will be a grave mistake if you don't convince the Israelis to abandon their plans to invade Lebanon; that in the event there is any terrorist act, that can be dealt with independently; and that invading Lebanon will not solve the problem. Now look at what is happening.

Question: Do you think the Americans gave the Israelis a green light?

Answer: I cannot say whether they gave it or not, but embarking on invasion was wrong.

Question: What should now be done for Lebanon?

Answer: I think the first thing should be an Israeli initiative to fully withdraw. I said this to Begin when he was in power. Some (?sources) have informed me that they are discussing adopting an initiative to withdraw to the international borders. This would be extremely useful. The starting point should be the Palestinian question, which should be considered the crux of the entire problem, after finding a way to link Jordan's King Husayn and PLO Chairman 'Arafat. This should not be postponed until a solution to the Lebanese problem is reached. It is one process — that is, the total withdrawal; the beginning of tackling the Palestinian problem; and finding a way to reduce the settlements, because settlements will complicate the entire affair. This is to be followed by discussions among the Arabs on the Syrian presence in Lebanon. The Arabs will, on their side, be convinced of the call on Syria to also withdraw from Lebanon.

Question: Do you think such a scenario will succeed?

Answer: I think it will succeed by concerting all efforts.

Question: Do you believe the U.S. forces currently in Lebanon within the framework of the Multinational Force continue to have a necessary role? Did you discuss this issue with President Reagan?

Answer: Their withdrawal now would be catastrophic. You will lose the confidence of all your friends in the region. You must be like an umbrella. If you withdraw, your forces must be replaced by the UN forces now in Lebanon. I have said that the Israeli forces' complete withdrawal must be achieved and the Palestinian problem must be confronted. I have also said that action should be taken to strengthen the Lebanese Armed Forces, and that UN forces can be sent. All this will constitute a good beginning.

Question: Dispatching UN forces requires cooperation with the Soviet Union. Can this be fulfilled now?

Answer: Why not...?

Question: How can this be possible now when it has been impossible before?

Answer: I believe the Soviet Union did not agree on this in the beginning, but Soviet leaders now agrees to this with certain conditions. Conducting a dialogue with the Soviet Union will lead to good results regarding the replacement of the Multinational Force with a UN force.

Question: Were your viewpoints identical to those of President Reagan in this regard?

Answer: I have discussed this problem with the U.S. Administration, and believe they have the same idea.

Question: Are you satisfied with the present methods of U.S. policy?

Answer: Yes....

Question: Do you believe that Syria, in view of its policy in Lebanon, can face Egypt or oppose its official return to the Arab and Islamic worlds?

Answer: They cannot do this. Egypt has indeed returned to the ICO....

Question: What about the Arab League?

Answer: I'm not in a hurry to return to the Arab League. The Arab League Charter says all resolutions must be unanimously adopted and that any state can veto any resolution. The ICO is sufficient for me....

Question: Do you believe Syria's policy in Lebanon is good, or do you have any criticism of it?

Answer: I am looking forward to the return of all the forces to their respective countries....

Question: Do you believe the Lebanese can regain their unity?

Answer: If we leave the Lebanese alone, then all their factions can sit down at a roundtable and solve their problems.

Question: Do you believe Syria is a state that must be contained in the Arab world by Egypt, or any other state, for example?

Answer: I know President Hafiz al-Asad and his regime. I know them personally.... We are friends; therefore I cannot currently comment on anything related to President Hafiz al-Asad.

Question: Do you have any proposals you would like to make to the United States regarding the best methods of dealing with Syria?

Answer: I have notified the United States that any kind of aggression against Syria will not solve the problem, and that we will stand against this.

Question: Do you feel the United States has committed an aggression against Syria?

Answer: I do not believe the United States will carry out an aggression or military operation against Syria. I have given them my opinion. However, they told me they have not engaged in such an action.

Question: You have received PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, and are also urging the United States to meet with him. Why should the United States meet with 'Arafat if the PLO doesn't first recognize Israel?

Answer: Have you seen the resolutions adopted at the Arab summit conference in Fes, particularly the seventh article? Do you remember the contents of that article? It is a recognition of and peaceful coexistence with Israel.

Question: It is an implict recognition, not an explicit one. Have you found President Reagan sympathetic to your request that he should meet with the PLO?

Answer: We discussed the entire issue. However, it all depends on the Israelis, and in a comprehensive manner. As you know, former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger made some commitments that prevent any contacts with Yasir 'Arafat. That was some time ago. I believe the United States continues to abide by these commitments. The truth remains that attaining a solution will be very difficult without any dialogue with Yasir 'Arafat.

Question: Do you believe Yasir 'Arafat is prepared to sit down with Israel and negotiate for peace?

Answer: I believe the PLO is prepared to negotiate on this issue within the framework of a delegation with King Husayn. That was the subject of our discussion with President Reagan. King Husayn will coordinate with 'Arafat to form a joint delegation for the negotiations.

Question: How can progress be achieved in this regard.... I was in Amman a few days ago, and found the PLO very cautious and avoiding any decisions.

Answer: I believe they [the PLO] will meet with King Husayn in the very near future. We will try to extend any aid in this regard. I also believe King Hsuayn is leaving no stone unturned to reach a coordination with Yasir 'Arafat, because this is the only course at the present time.

Question: Have you sensed that President Reagan sympathizes with this initiative?

Answer: President Reagan wants this kind of coordination, and he listened to our viewpoints.

Question: Is there a timetable for acheiving this coordination?

Answer: We did not decide on any timetable.

Question: Can one expect any progress this year regarding the Jordanian-Palestinian initiative?

Answer: We must achieve progress this year regardless of the circumstances. Unless this is achieved, 1985 will be more complicated and difficult, and the matter will require 10 times the effort because Israeli settlements will be established everywhere.

Question: I would like to ask you about Egypt's refusal to return its ambassador to Israel and about the general statements in the Egyptian press to which many Israelis object and which lead to what the Israelis call a state of cold peace. Is this how you describe Egyptian-Israeli relations?

Answer: In my description of these relations, I absolutely did not use the expression of cold peace. Why do they tell us there are some statements that cause them concern? Their media uses the vilest expressions against Egypt. Why don't they stop their media? They want to level accusations at us, and enjoy the freedom of attacking us. As for the issue of the ambassador, it was the least I could do at the time. The masses urged me to completely freeze diplomatic relations in the wake of the massacres perpetrated in the Sabra and Shatila camps in Beirut. The Israeli ambassador is still in Cairo. As for the return of our ambassador, the Israelis must realize that there must be something tangible which the masses will sense. I told them this can be a complete withdrawal from Lebanon, and a move toward the Palestinian cause and Tabah. I can easily return the ambassador to his post. There is no problem in that. I do not choose to speak about cold peace, hot peace, or war and peace. I deal with Israel in the same manner that I deal with any other country in the world.

Question: I was told last week in Israel that your stand harms those wishing to reach compromise solutions with Jordan?

Answer: How?

Question: I was told that though Israel returned the territories to Egypt, it did not obtain a warm peace. Therefore, why should they return the territories to Jordan?

Answer: Aren't they aware that Egypt is an Arab country?

Question: What does that mean?

Answer: Egypt is part of the Arab world and has been part of the Arab world throughout history. We sympathize with our Arab friends, although this will not be at the expense of our relations with Israel. I will not abandon our relations with Israel because of the Islamic or any other summit. This will never take place because we respect our commitments.

Question: Your commitments to Israel and to your Arab brothers....?

Answer: Naturally; but this must not be at the expense of this or that party.

Question: King Hassan II of Morocco has been cited as saying you said Camp David is dead.

Answer: I did not say that; in fact, I said nothing against Camp David. We concluded a peace treaty, and we respect our commitments. We are not a small state which revokes its commitments. We returned to the ICO without any harm to our sovereignty.

Question: Does Egypt believe good opportunities for working with Israel will become available if the Labor Party assumes power there?

Answer: This is their affair. I don't know whether the Labor Party or any other party will be better. We deal with Israel as a state.

Question: You are facing very difficult economic problems and youhope to obtain the largest possible U.S. assistance to confront this problem. How did President Reagan respond to this matter?

Answer: We discussed the question of weapons purchase, as this is a very important issue. The previous U.S. administration had promised us equal treatment with Israel. However, this equality did not materialize, and I wonder why. As-Sadat signed the peace treaty and was given that promise. I urged the present U.S. Administration to give us equal treatement with the Israelis.

Question: What was the response?

Answer: As you know, they are discussing the matter.

Question: Is equality on such a matter of military importance, or does it have anything to do with national pride? What is the importance of this?

Answer: Financing affects the entire economic situation.

Mubarak Congratulates DPRK Official on Birthday
JN151250 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1030 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Cairo, 15 Feb (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak sent a congratulatory cable to Commander Kim Chong-il, secretary of the Central Committee of the Korean Workers Party and member of the Military Commission, on the happy occasion of his birthday. The cable reads:

It pleases me to send you my true, heartfelt congratulations on your happy birthday, wishing you the best of health and happiness, and the friendly people of democratic Korea progress and prosperity.

Danish Foreign Minister Visit Ends, Departs
JN151004 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0850 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Cairo, 15 Feb (MENA) — Danish Foreign Minister Uffe Ellemann-Jensen left Cairo this morning for home after a 4-day official visit to Egypt during which he held talks with Prime Minister Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din and the ministers of agriculture, supply, and reconstruction.

In a predeparture statement, the Danish minister said his visit had been extremely successful, and that it came at a critical time in terms of the events in Lebanon and the Middle East. He also said the views of the Danish and Egyptian diplomacies were identical on the various international issues and problems that threaten world peace. The minister said his meetings with the Egyptian officials resulted in promoting the two countries' cooperation in the economic, military, and technical fields during the next stage.

He was seen off by Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs.

Armed Forces General Command Communique No 1,373

JN151741 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1705 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Communique No 1,373 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 15 February 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

With further determination and confidence in the inevitability of triumph over the rancorous and criminal enemies, the sons of great Iraq are continuing their brave confrontation of the Iranian enemy, which insists on harm and aggression. The results are as follows:

1. At 0714 today, two fighter planes of the criminal Iranian enemy raided the residential areas of the town of Ba'qubah. Our air defense means intercepted them and forced them to flee The enemy raid resulted in the martyrdom of 3 civilians and the injury of 20 others.

At 1416 and 1420 today, two enemy fighter planes raided residential areas in Maysan Governorate; two other planes raided Wasit Governorate. Our air defense means intercepted them and forced them to flee.

The two enemy raids resulted in the martyrdom of 14 citizens; various injuries to 31 others, including some children and women; and damage to 13 houses and 2 civilian cars in Maysan Governorate. They also injured two children and damaged one school and one shop in Wasit Governorate.

The criminals ruling in Iran continued to use heavy artillery to shell Basra, Khanaqin, Mandali, Zurbatiyah, Sayyid Sadiq, Chandri, and Khurmal yesterday evening and today. The savage enemy shelling resulted in losses in lives and properties as follows: In Basra, 7 were martyred and 13 wounded; 2 houses and 19 civilian cars were damaged. In Khanaqin one was wounded, six houses were damaged, and one elementary school was demolished. In Sayyid Sadiq and Chandri, one woman was martyred and two citizens were wounded. In Zurbatiyah, a number of houses and orchards were damaged. In Khurmal, some civilian establishments were damaged. In Mandali, some civilian establishments were damaged.

2. Our forward units pounded the enemy positions and troop concentrations opposite our positions in the northern sector of the battlefield, killing 10, wounding others, and destroying 2 vehicles and 4 hardware stockpiles.

3. Our forward units fired on an enemy concentration and several tanks opposite our positions east of Basra, scoring direct and effective hits and killing three enemy troops.

4. Two were killed, several others were wounded, and one vehicle and one observation post were destroyed in the central sector of the battlefield.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 15 February 1984

Correction to Armed Forces Command Communique

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Armed Forces General Command Communique No 1,373," published in the 15 February Middle East and Africa *DAILY REPORT*, page E 1: In the headline:

...Armed Forces General Command Communique No 1,372...

and the subslug, line one:

...Communique No 1,372, issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 14 February...(correcting communique number to 1,372)

Commentary on Iranian Raids, Iraqi Policy

JN151642 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1510 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Unscheduled commentary]

[Text] Dear listeners: The rancorous Iranian regime's air raid against our citizens and border cities this morning, in which 3 civilians were killed and 18 others wounded, has irrefutably proved to those far and near in the world that the regime of killers, traitors, and ignoramuses in Tehran is today more determined than ever to pursue the course of aggression against our militant country, sovereignty, and security. This is additional proof of the Khomeyniite regime's criminal and barbaric course against which lofty and capable Iraq has always warned.

In the past few days, the world has witnessed the decisive and stunning Iraqi reply to the Iranian regime's reckless arrogance and continued shelling of our cities, villages, and civilian installations. These barbaric crimes perpetrated by the clique of rancor and evil against our people and cities have been confronted with the adequate, decisive, and capable reply of the lofty sons of Iraq.

It is a well known fact that Iraq possesses the means that enable it to strike at any target deep inside Iranian enemy territory. However, when we strike selected targets deep inside Iranian territory, we do not wish to harm Iranian citizens. We do this to defend Iraq's security, sovereignty, and stability, and to protect its cities and installations. This invariable fact is very well known to the sons of the Iranian people. They also know the extent of Iraq's principled and constant desire to maintain good neighborly relations, and its desire to not interfere in the domestic affairs of others.

As a reaffirmation of this, as a gesture of good will, and out of Iraq's sincere desire both to reach a just and honorable settlement of the dispute and to establish and entrench neighborly relations, a Foreign Ministry spokesman has stated that Iraq will suspend its strikes against selectted targets in Iranian cities for a period of 7 days, starting from 1500 yesterday afternoon, Tuesday. This responsible Iraqi decision was in response to an appeal from Mas'ud Rajavi, leader of the Mojahedin-e Khalq Iranian organization and official in charge of the Iranian National Resistance Council, that was contained in a letter he sent to Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

Thus, Iraq proves once again that it is adopting a sound, ethical, principled, and humanitarian course toward the Iranian people. However, the Foreign Ministry spokesman said that Iraq will resume its shelling of the declared targets if the Khomeyniite regime continues its policy of shelling the cities. Thus, we will have fulfilled our humanitarian pledges and responded to the request of our friends.

Source Denies Iranian Cities Shelled 15 Feb
JN151753 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1735 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Baghdad, 15 Feb (INA) — An Iraqi military source this evening denied Iranian claims that Abadan and Khorramshahr were subjected to Iraqi shelling today.

In a statement to INA, the Iraqi military source said that the Iraqi forces have been abiding by the Iraqi Government's decision to not shell any Iranian city from 1530 local time yesterday.

The source added that Iraq's sincere commitment to its decisions and pledges cannot be undermined by the Iranian rulers' lies and their inhumane practices.

The source said that the shelling of the designated targets will be resumed if the Iranian regime pursues its shelling of Iraqi cities.

Spokesman Denies Iran's Claims on Darband-i Khan
JN152030 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2010 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Baghdad, 15 Feb (INA) — An Iraqi military spokesman this evening denied Iranian claims that they have controlled Darband-i Khan.

The spokesman said that these Iranian claims are part of the commotion the suspect regime has got in the habit of fomenting from time to time when it is faced with successive battlefield defeats at the hands of the valiant Iraqi Army.

The spokesman explained that these lies also aim at containing the Iranian people's indignation and diverting their attention from the deteriorating situation in Iran. Iran's military Communique No 3, broadcast on Tehran radio in Persian this evening, stated that the Iranian forces today succeeded in controlling Darband-i Khan [word indistinct].

Pledge To Cease Shelling Iran Reiterated 16 Feb
JN160728 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0700 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Tehran radio announced on the night of 14-15 February and on 15 February 1984 that the Iranian towns of Eslamabad, Khorramshahr, and Abadan were subjected to Iraqi shelling. We would like to point out that this information, which was blared out by the enemy, is groundless. The fabrication of such lies has become common Iranian practice.

Since 1500 on Tuesday, 14 February 1984, we have been committed to avoid shelling the Iranian towns and the scheduled targets for 7 days as of the abovementioned date. We will continue to cease shelling the Iranian towns in fulfillment of our pledge to Mas'ud Rajavi, official in charge of the Mojahedin-e Khalq organization and chairman of the Iranian opposition council, and in accordance with the Foreign Ministry's statement, throughout the week specified in this statement.

However, after the termination of the abovementioned period, and if the Iranian enemy continues to shell our peaceful towns, we will find ourselves forced to reply in the same manner and even stronger.

And they who do wrong will know to what final place of turning they will turn back. [Koranic verse]

[Dated] 16 February 1984

New Iranian Offensive Reportedly Contained
JN160904 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0845 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

At midnight on 15-16 February an enemy force tried to attack the border guards' observation posts on the international borders along the right flank of the II Army Corps positions. The valiant border units in the area confronted the attack. The offensive has been contained and the attacking force was partially destroyed. One of our valiant Army's military units carried out the duty of counterattack after midnight and early in the morning. The major part of the attacking force has been destroyed. The clash is still going on. Meanwhile, our units are pressing hard on the remaining defeated remnants.

[Dated] 16 February 1984

Seven Iranian Naval Targets Destroyed 16 Feb
JN161000 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 0935 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

And send against you a heavy gale to drown you because of your ingratitude. [Koranic verse]

This morning an enemy naval convoy was discovered. It consisted of a number of naval targets in the Khowr-e Musa area in the northeastern part of the Arab Gulf. Some of them were trying to enter Bandar-e Khomeyni while others were trying to leave it. Our bold naval units and their capable aircraft intercepted them and took them by surprise. They carried out violent attacks and dealt them painful blows, and managed after successive attempts this morning to hit and destroy five of these naval targets. Fire

was seen gutting them, while the rest of the naval targets dispersed in diasarray and confusion. Two of them entered the mine field planted by our valiant Navy in the abovementioned area. They were brought to a halt and then sank.

Thus, the number of enemy naval targets which were hit and destroyed today amounted to seven. All our bold naval units and aircraft returned safely and successfully to base, praise be to God.

[Dated] 16 February 1984

16 Feb Raids on Iran's Mehran Denied

JN1o1109 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1057 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Feb (INA) — Iraq has denied carrying out any air raids on Mehran or any other city today. An Iraqi military source emphasized to INA a short while ago that Iraq has stopped any operation directed agaisnt the Iranian targets defined in its previous statements since Tuesday afternoon.

Tehran radio claimed that the Iraqi warplanes raided the Iranian city today.

The source pointed out that the people of Mehran and the rest of the Iranian cities know the whole truth and realize the meaning of the Tehran rulers' lies.

Spokesman Denies Fighter Plane Downed 16 Feb

JN161437 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1424 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Feb (INA) — Iraq has strongly denied that any of its fighter planes were shot down today. In a statement to INA, a military spokesman denied Iranian claims about downing an Iraqi plane. He emphasized that Iraqi planes did not carry out any war activities today.

Government Ready To Confront Any New Aggression

JN151430 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1355 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Basra, 15 Feb (INA) — Staff General 'Adnan Khayrallah, deputy commander in chief of the Iraqi Armed Forces and defense minister, has stated that Iraq possesses high capabilities for confronting any new Iranian aggression against it.

At an expanded popular seminar he held here today, Gen Khayrallah said that the Iranian rulers' real objective behind prolonging the war is to weaken Iraq as a prelude to implementing their scheme for fragmenting the Arab homeland. Gen Khayrallah stressed that the steadfast Iraqi people and Army have foiled this enemy scheme, and that the Iraqis continue to defend their homeland, sovereignty, and dignity with their heads held high.

The Iraqi minister reviewed the history of Iran's rancor against Iraq and the Arab nation, and the link existing between Iranian and Zionist schemes. Over the past few days, Basra has been subjected to Iranian artillery shelling.

Papers Say Iraq's Retaliation Will Be Firm

JN160943 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0740 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Feb (INA) — *ATH-THAWRAH* asserts that the Iranian enemy has escalated its criminal methods by shelling Basra, Mandali, Khanaqin, Sayyid Sadiq, Chandri, and Ash-Shihabi with heavy artillery causing loss of life and damage to property.

In its editorial today, *ATH-THAWRAH* says: In light of the Iranian shelling of Iraqi cities, capable Iraq will teach the aggressors new lessons in firm retaliation.

The paper notes that the Iranian enemy is fully aware that Iraq has not yet used all its means of deterrent, and has not yet carried out all its warnings to strike at those Iranian cities which are assembly areas for its forces, and depots for its weapons and hardware with which it intends to launch its desperate assault against Iraq.

ATH-THAWRAH asserts that Iraq reiterated its humanitarian and responsible course by responding to the appeal by Mas'ud Rajavi, official in charge of the Mojahedin-e Khalq organization despite the fact that the Iranian regime continued to strike at Iraqi cities.

ATH-THAWRAH notes that the enemy, whose Air Force potential was depleted at the beginning of the war, is fully aware that the Iraqi Air Force eagles have always destroyed the enemy positions and concentrations, and that they are now capable of dealing courageous blows to selected targets with accuracy.

ATH-THAWRAH concludes: The Iraqi retaliation this time will be so tough that it will make the empty, racial, crazy minds regain their reason if they have any left.

AL-JUMHURIYAH says that Iran's rulers are responsibile for all the consequences of their rejection of the Iraqi initiative not to shell Iranian cities.

AL-JUMHURIYAH asserts that Iraq's only option is to defend its cities and citizens with its special means of retaliation and deterrent.

The paper notes that Iraq is ready to use all means to guarantee its citizens' security, and force the enemy to respect Iraq's right to exist.

AL-JUMHURIYAH asserts that Iraq's long hand will reach their necks, and Iraq's missiles will destroy their castles.

Ma'ruf, 'Aziz Return From Moscow 15 February

JN151819 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf, RCC member and vice president, returned to Baghdad today after participating in the funeral of late USSR leader Yuriy Andropov. The vice president was accompanied by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

Parliamentary Delegation Returns From Bulgaria
JN150900 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0812 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Baghdad, 15 Feb (INA) — The Iraqi National Assembly delegation led by Baha ad-Din Ahmad, deputy speaker of the assembly, returned to Baghdad last night after a visit to Bulgaria. In a statement to INA, Baha ad-Din Ahmad said that the visit was successful in terms of strengthening the two friendly countries' parliamentary relations. He said talks between the two sides dealt with the current Arab situation, the Iraqi-Iranian war, and promoting parliamentary relations.

Kurdish Radio on Kidnapping of Swiss Technicians
GF151730 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan in Kurdish 1200 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Press statement issued by Kurdish Democratic Party [KDP] 13 February]

[Text] The KDP political office has issued the following press statement concerning two kidnapped Swiss technicians: On 4 February, a company of our KDP peshmerga laid an ambush on the road to (?Sharmukh) north of Mosul City.

A Chevrolet car, registration No 1807, was attacked; it contained two Swiss experts working for the Hatt-Haller Company specializing in excavation work and in the construction of sea platforms and bridges. They are: Hans Kistler (Halender), born in 1934; and Mario Riva (Turico), born in 1939. The company for whom they work is headquartered at Umm Al-Qasr port in Basra.

The peshmerga captured them and took them to one of our party bases in the liberated Iraqi Kurdistan mountains. They are in good health.

Our party warned again the foreign workers in Iraq not to wander in Kurdistan because it is a region of military operations for our forces against the Iraqi forces and interests. They will not be released unless the Iraqi Government, which is responsible for their protection in its country, complies with the following conditions:

A. Release 60 Kurdish political prisoners among whom are our KDP members who are due to be executed.

B. The Iraqi Government must return to Kurdistan 8,000 Kurdish citizens whom the regime exiled to southern Iraq last August.

C. The government must stop the public execution campaigns against the Kurdish opponents of the regime.

15 Feb Dailies on Husayn's Talks in Washington

JN151115 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 15 Feb 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Washington Meeting, the Last Chance," *SAWT ASH-SHA'B* says: Although the tripartite meeting among his majesty the king, the Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, and U.S. President Reagan in Washington constitutes and advanced stage in the Arab effort to achieve a just and lasting peace in the Middle East, it also constitutes a last chance for the U.S. Administration to come out of the circle of failure that has plagued U.S. policy in the region due to its erronous narrow view of the historical and political realities in it.

SAWT ASH-SHA'B adds: This meeting is particularly important because of the sides involved in it and circumstances in which it is convening. On the Arab level, Husayn and Mubarak face the U.S. President with a unified Arab stand and a comprehensive view that puts the U.S. Administration before a realistic and moderate political stand. This should prompt the United States to formulate a new, balanced stand embodied in practical actions to achieve a comprehensive and just peace in the region and keep it away from the dangers of polarization and further extremism, before the region is dragged toward extremism that is encouraged and represented by the policy of aggression undertaken by Israel with U.S. support throught the alliance with the U.S. Administration.

For the United States, the meeting takes place at a time when the U.S. Administration faces clear defeats and setbacks in the Middle East, particularly in Lebanon, which has resulted in a loss of confidence in the U.S. role in the region and doubt over Washington's credibility and its desire for a comprehensive settlement.

SAWT ASH-SHA'B says: We are confident that the presentation of the issue of peace in the Middle East, especially the Palestinian question, to the U.S. Administration by Husayn and Mubarak will emphasize the fact that the Palestinian question will remain the prime mover of all events in the region and the key to peace, because all the problems in the area add up to the Palestinian question. Without a just and lasting solution to it, the region will remain susceptible to eruptions and more international involvement and a threat to world stability.

SAWT ASH-SHA'B concludes: Whatever the results may be, the success or failure of any effort toward peace depends now on the U.S. position. If Washington loses the moderation card in the Middle East, it will eventually lose all its cards in the region.

Under the headline "Reason and Results" *AR-RA'Y* says: Observers of the Lebanese crisis and the complete failure that has plagued U.S. efforts to reach a solution know exactly what His Majesty King Husayn meant when he stressed to President Reagan that Lebanon is not the crux of the Middle East issue and that the most dangerous thing is that this crisis has deterred the United States from attending to the real crisis. The talks between President Mubarak and President Reagan likewise concentrated on the Palestine question. In the tripartite summit among his majesty the king, the Egyptian president, and the U.S. President, the positions expressed by Husayn and Mubarak were reiterated separately.

AR-RA'Y adds: The crisis in Lebanon is a natural result of the crisis in the region, the crux of which is the Palestinian question. There is no better evidence of the importance and reality of this fact than Egyptian-Israeli relations. The Camp David accords did not lessen the danger of the Arab-Zionist conflict, and Egypt's exit from its Arab circle in the days of As-Sadat did not make the Arab nation relinquish its usurped lands and rights, as Washington and Zionist circles had expected. On the contrary, the Camp David line revealed clearly to Egypt and the Arab nation that the Zionist enemy does not want peace but looks instead to domination. It is not intent on stability in the area but on keeping it susceptible to eruption.

AR-RA'Y concludes: Although we realize the significance of the last year in President Reagan's term of office and recognize the dimensions of the U.S. presidential election campaign, we hope the administration in Washington also realizes that the Arabs have always supported every effort for a just and lasting peace and that the Zionist enemy has always worked to destroy every such effort. Egypt's experience with the Zionist enemy and Washington's experience with it in Lebanon and with President Reagan's initiative should be sufficient reason for the U.S. Administration, through its pressure, ability, and power, to curb the Zionist expansionist mentality and its insistence on keeping the Middle East an arena for war and destruction, the effects of which go beyond the boundaries of the region and the numerous interests in it.

AR-RA'Y: U.S. Missed Opportunity in Husayn Talks

JN160727 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 16 Feb 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The U.S. Administration and the Missed Opportunity," *AR-RA'Y* says: In light of the statements made by President Husni Mubarak in Cairo and U.S. officials in Washington and Tel Aviv yesterday, it seems that the U.S. Administration has missed the opportunity to regain its credibility in the Middle East. President Mubarak announced that the U.S. position toward the PLO has not changed; U.S. officials in Washington said that detente was not achieved at the working luncheon attended by His Majesty King Husayn, President Mubarak, and President Reagan; and the U.S. ambassador in Tel Aviv expressed pessimism over pushing Jordan toward participating in negotiations in the near future, admitting that U.S.-Israeli dreams in Lebanon have failed and that the United States and Israel must not consider each other scapegoats.

AR-RA'Y continues: It is obvious that this outcome is an indication of the U.S. hard line toward the Palestine cause and U.S. collusion with Israel which produced the futile dreams in Lebanon and which has been causing many catastrophes and tragedies. It is also obvious that the failure of the U.S. Administration to ease its hard-line position and collusion was a waste of the real opportunity it was given through the tripartite summit

in Washington to regain its collapsed credibility in our region. In any case, the outcome of the talks is strong evidence that the U.S. Administration does not want to learn from its mistakes and that the Arabs must not pin their hopes on the balance they seek from it in its policies and practices.

AR-RA'Y concludes: This does not mean that the Arabs must isolate themselves from the rest of the world or burn their bridges with others. It means that the Arabs must close ranks and make a comprehensive and courageous assessment of the requirements of this current stage and the march toward a just peace, a peace that is based on regaining usurped rights away from any kind of hegemony.

King Husayn Arrives in London on Private Visit

JN151653 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Excerpt] London — His Majesty King Husayn arrived in London this afternoon on a private visit to Britain that will last several days. During this visit, his majesty is expected to meet with Prime Minister Mrs Margaret Thatcher.

Prince Hasan Receives U.S. Congressman Fowler

JN151252 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 15 Feb 84 pp 1, 20

[Text] Amman — PETRA — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the regent, received in his office last night Wyche Fowler, member of the U.S. House of Representatives, and his delegation currently visiting Jordan within a tour of the Middle East.

His highness explained to the delegation the Middle East situation in general and the recent developments, as well as the situation in the occupied Arab territories in light of Israel's expansionist policy of establishing settlements in Arab land — a policy aimed at Judaizing the Arab territories and emptying them of their original inhabitants.

The meeting was attended by the U.S. charge d'affaires in Amman.

Parliament Leaders Invited To Visit USSR

House Speaker al-Fayiz

JN151544 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1455 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Amman, 15 Feb (PETRA) — 'Akif al-Fayiz, speaker of the House of Representatives, received in his office this morning the Soviet ambassador in Amman, who conveyed to Al-Fayiz and the House members the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium's thanks for their condolences on the death of Soviet leader Andropov.

The ambassador invited Al-Fayiz to visit the Svoiet Union. The invitation was accepted, and the date will be set later.

Senate President al-Lawzi

JN151540 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1452 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Amman, 15 Feb (PETRA) — Senate President Ahmad al-Lawzi received in his office this morning the Soviet ambassador in Amman, who conveyed to Al-Lawzi the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium's thanks for his condolences on the death of Soviet leader Andropov.

The ambassador invited the Senate president to visit the Soviet Union. He also praised the relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

Al-Lawzi accepted the invitation; the date of the visit will be seted later.

Briefs

Ambassador to Britain — A royal decree has been issued appointing Hani Tabbarah as Jordanian Ambassador in London as of March 1984. [Summary][Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 15 Feb 84 pp 1, 19 JN]

Al-Jumayyil Dispatches Envoys to Various Capitals

NC151625 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] It has been learned that the president has dispatched envoys to Arab and Western capitals to hold further consultations on the existing situation before making a political decision.

Al-Jumayyil Resents Reports on 'Fateful Decision'

NC160605 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] While contacts and consultations continue on the local, regional, and international levels to deal with the serious situation in Lebanon, press reports this morning said President Amin al-Jumayyil expressed surprise at reports suggesting he is about to make a fateful decision within the next 24 hours. During his meeting with a number of deputies last evening, the president expressed resentment over such reports because the people should not be given an impression of decisions that do not exist.

Al-Jumayyil Reportedly To Make Speech 16 Feb

NC161350 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1345 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil devoted his attention today to preparing a speech which he will broadcast tonight. The contents have not yet been disclosed. However, observers expect it to contain surprises, particularly in connection with the 17 May agreement.

Al-Jumayyil Verbal Message to Franjiyah

NC160726 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] Political contacts to tackle the crisis are taking place at several levels. Former President Sulayman Franjiyah leaves today or tomorrow for Damascus carrying the views of the National Salvation Front, the regime's stance, and the options it is considering for emerging from the crisis.

It was reported that President Amin al-Jumayyil yesterday sent a verbal message to Franjiyah on the outcome of his contacts and meetings on the night of 14-15 February after his meeting with Franjiyah in Smar Jubayl.

French Envoy Meets Al-Jumayyil, Makes Statement

NC160928 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil this morning received French Ambassador to Lebanon Ferdinand Wibaux. He and the ambassador discussed the developments in the situation in Lebanon and the area. After the meeting the French ambassador said: It was an ordinary meeting at President al-Jumayyil's request, and the talks were wide ranging.

Answering a question regarding the French contingent's role in Beirut, the ambassador said: It is a French initiative, which has been approved by President al-Jumayyil, and falls within the framework of the French vision of how France can assist Lebanon to the greatest possible extent.

Minister on Mitterrand Statement on Al-Jumayyil

NC151737 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Commenting on statements made by French President Francois Mitterrand to the effect that the position of Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil is threatened, Information and Justice Minister Roger Shaykhani said: The French president, who is the head of the state most friendly to Lebanon, realizes that the position of all Lebanon, and not only that of the president, is threatened. We are not only passing through an ordeal, but are standing at a decisive historical juncture, of which President al-Jumayyil is fully aware. He acts according to the available resources and means of action, as well as procedures. Proof of this is that the institutions are functioning and most of the responsible and influential Lebanese personalities appreciate the president's efforts and consider the presidency an institution belonging to all Lebanese.

Minister Shaykhani said: All have sensed what could result from further strikes at the legitimate institutions and exposing them to the danger of annihilation. The president holds the reigns, while depending on the Lebanese people's confidence, awareness, and sense of their fate — a fate that could be none other than insistence on the continuation of work. If all of Lebanon — its entire people and factions — are at the dangerous juncture, then doesn't that require us to rise above selfish interests, consolidate the ranks, and rally around the legitimate authority, which alone is qualified to steer the homeland away from this terrible storm?

In conclusion, the information minister said: France, the friendly state, has withheld no aid. We, as Lebanese, fully appreciate this. We know President Mitterrand is first among those who work for the continuation of a united, democratic, and sovereign Lebanon.

France Questioned on Working Paper to UNSC

NC161322 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] Lebanon has addressed questions to France on the working paper forwarded yesterday at the UN Security Council, which aims to achieve an immediate cease-fire in Lebanon and replace the Multinational Force with a UN force.

The Lebanese questions are: In the event the dispatch of the UN force to Lebanon is approved, why would its task be restricted to Beirut and its suburbs? How would the Multinational Force be withdrawn, and how would the UN force enter? Who would guarantee that the armed parties would not attack the UN forces keeping in mind the highly developed type of arms in the gunmen's possession?

Salim To Meet With Saudi Mediator Al-Hariri
NC161203 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] Within the framework of the diplomatic moves, Foreign Minister Elie Salim today left to meet with Saudi mediator Rafiq al-Hariri to reactivate the Saudi mediation.

Meanwhile, Al-Hariri is following up his contacts in Saudi Arabia. Well-informed sources expect positive stances, including the departure of Sa'ud al-Faysal to Damascus to resume his mediation with Syrian officials regarding a solution to the Lebanese question.

Government Source Comments on Junblatt Statement
NC152223 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 2145 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] A government source this evening commented on a statement the Junblattists have circulated among the information media in France. The statement purports that Junblattist forces will enter B'abda and the Presidential Palace within hours. The government source said that the people know this is only a deception. Getting to B'abda is not an easy task. The Army and people will resist, and there are U.S. assurances that any attack on Greater Beirut will elicit a greater [military] response.

Birri, U.S. Envoy Meet, Make Statements
NC160631 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] The first meeting between Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri and U.S. Ambassador to Beirut Reginald Bartholomew since the recent developments in Beirut and its southern suburb was held yesterday. The meeting was attended by several U.S. diplomats, 'Akif Haydar, Amal Movement Political Bureau head, and bureau member Dr Ghassan Siblani.

After the 2 and 1/2 hour meeting, the U.S. ambassador was asked about the atmosphere of the meeting and whether it focused on the Marines' security while withdrawing from Lebanon. The ambassador said: We had useful talks. The atmosphere is always good when I talk with Birri. The talks did not focus on the U.S. contingent's withdrawal. The operation was well carried out and we are satisfied with it.

Lawyer Birri said the exchange of views did not depart from the framework of previous discussions. There is no new plan or visualization.

Commenting on the U.S. ambassador's statement that the meeting was useful, Birri said: It was useful to exchange views, although we naturally did not agree on all views. Therefore, our discussions took a long time.

French Envoy Meets Spiritual Leaders 15 Feb
NC160640 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] French Ambassador to Beirut Ferdinand Wibaux visited Shaykh Hasan Khalid, mufti of the Lebanese Republic, yesterday at Al-Fatwa house. The talks dealt with the French move at the Security Council for deploying UN forces in Lebanon.

Ambassador Wibaux also visited Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams ad-Din, deputy chairman of the Higher Shi'ite Islamic Council, in the presence of distinguished Ja'farite Mufti Shaykh 'Abd al-Amir Qabalan, Deputies Husayn al-Husayni and 'Abd al-Latif az-Zayn, and members of the Higher Shi'ite Council.

The talks dealt with recent developments, the question of deploying UN forces in place of the Multinational Force, and the task they will be entrusted with. All of this was discussed with the view of maintaining Lebanese unity and expanding horizons for political solutions aimed at drafting solid foundations for a future Lebanon based on principles of justice and equality among all Lebanese people in a state that will ensure Lebanon's revival to carry out its natural role in the Arab world and its cultural mission in the world.

Italy's Spadolini, Commanders Study Withdrawal
NC161424 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] AFP reports that Italian Defense Minister Giovanni Spadolini has arrived aboard a warship off the Lebanese coast to study with commanders of the Italian contingent in the Multinational Force the question of withdrawing members of the contingent from Beirut.

It is known that Italian Prime Minister Craxi had stated that the process of withdrawing the Italian contingent might be completed in 2 weeks.

Sham'un Opposes Al-Jumayyil Visit to Syria
NC161303 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1245 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] [Former] President Camille Sham'un today expressed his opposition to the idea of President al-Jumayyil's visit to Syria. He called on the president to reject this visit, especially after the Syrian capital's participation in the recent battles with all its forces.

Franjiyah Denies Planning To Visit Damascus
NC161327 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] [Former] President Sulayman Franjiyah has warned the citizens against falling prey to the deception practiced by various radio stations and certain other information media regarding a visit he intends to make to Damascus. He said that various radio stations and other information media have been reporting since

yesterday that President Sulayman Franjiyah intends to visit Damascus to prepare for a Lebanese-Damascus summit. Franjiyah added that whatever is being disseminated or rumored on this matter, or on Lebanese-Syrian mediation by him is untrue part and parcel.

Birri Says Amal Will 'Protect' Marines

NC152040 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri said the use of UN forces will ease the nation's game of personal interests. In a statement to the French paper *LE MONDE*, Birri added that the Multinational Force's problem is a political one. Birri emphasized Amal's commitment to protect the Marines when they withdraw.

Iddih: U.S. 'Losing Credibility' Throughout Area

PM150948 Rome LA REPUBBLICA in Italian 11 Feb 84 p 7

[Interview with Lebanese Christian Maronite leader Raymond Iddih by Aldo Sofia in Paris, presumably on 10 February]

[Text] Paris, 10 February — "It is a heavy defeat for the United States. The United States now has to face a frightening loss of credibility not only in Lebanon but throughout the Middle East. Indeed, consider what the Marines' withdrawal from Beirut means to the moderate Arab countries, Reagan's allies. These friends of the United States have lost a great deal of faith in the Western superpower. This is the price the United States is paying for the incredible errors it committed in Lebanon, where it confined itself to supporting Amin al-Jumayyil's presidency by force."

This is the verdict on the "Lebanese turnabout" given by Raymond Iddih, son of the Republic's first president, leader of the National Bloc (the most moderate of the Maronite Christian groups), and member of several governments prior to his voluntary but temporary exile in Paris. He was Druze Junblatt's candidate for head of state, refused to attend the Geneva conference because he was "certain of its futility," was recently contacted by the Saudi mediators, and his name regularly arises — including in Washington — when thinking of someone apart from the melee and capable of reconciling the Lebanese.

"The Americans are acting in Lebanon as they did in Vietnam. They drop their bombs and that's that. But Lebanon is not a jungle, and the shells from the *New Jersey* are destroying entire villages. Reagan maintains he is combating Syria. So why doesn't he bombard the Syrian positions in the Al-Biqa' valley? No, it is a lie, and the truth is different. At this stage, Reagan no longer wants even Amin al-Jumayyil's safety. He only wants the safety of...Reagan. Indeed, it is clear to everyone that the U.S. President has acted solely for domestic political reasons; he has withdrawn the Marines and replaced them with the guns of the 6th Fleet, so that he can win the elections. But is he so sure he has made the right move? Is the defeat suffered not sufficient to make him realize that he will never succeed in achieving anything in Lebanon through force? And doesn't he realize that the bombardments from the sea are also endangering the other contingents of the Multinational Peace Force?"

Question: In fact, the Italians too have announced their gradual disengagement from Lebanon.

Answer: It was inevitable and right, although I do say that the Italians could stay in Beirut in a different situation. Their role has been much appreciated by the Lebanese and Palestinian population, as is the commitment the government expressed yesterday regarding the defense of the refugee camps. If the Italians have suffered casualties, it is not because of attacks on your infantry, but by accident. Everyone knows that Italy has remained neutral, whereas the United States has acted in Lebanon as Israel's surest ally. This is the scandal. The West rightly protests at Soviet expansionism and occupation of Afghanistan. Why doesn't it also protest the Israeli Army's occupation of southern Lebanon?

Question: Thus, you do not believe in UN intervention, nor that we are on the eve of a decisive clash, a final reckoning between Christians and Muslims?

Answer: The United Nations is impotent. I have direct experience of this. Back in 1968, as a minister, I requested the blue helmets' intervention following the Israelis' destruction of a number of aircraft of the Lebanese commercial fleet. It was a futile appeal. Now there are 7,000 UN troops in southern Lebanon. Have they prevented the Israeli invasion? Unfortunately it is not enough to wear the UN blue helmet to impose peace! Nor is it correct to state that we have reached the decisive battle between Muslims and Christians. Not the Christians, but the Phalangists, who only understand the language of force. It is no coincidence that they are objectively Israel's allies. They realize that as long as southern Lebanon is occupied there can be no domestic reforms. I maintain, however, that we must liberate national territory (as Italy did during the occupation) because we can then tackle the issue of political and institutional reforms without serious problems. That's why Israel is our principal enemy. It must withdraw, as demanded by Security Council resolutions. Naturally, Syria, too — at a later stage — will have to leave Lebanon. But let us not forget that in 1976 it was the Phalangists themselves who requested the Syrian Army's help. We cannot fail to take account of this. You are told this by a Maronite Christian, the first person to forecast Lebanon's partitioning 10 years ago — a partitioning that is now a reality.

Rome's IL MESSAGGERO Interviews Iddih, Birri

AU111624 Rome ANSA in English 1538 GMT 11 Feb 84

[Text] (ANSA) Rome, February 11 — Contrasting views on the Multinational Force in Lebanon were aired in two separate interviews appearing in today's edition of the Rome daily *IL MESSAGGERO*.

Former Lebanese Minister Raymond Iddih, a Christian Maronite, told the paper that the American troops in the Multinational Force should leave Lebanon. "There is a tacit agreement between Israel and Syria for the partitioning of Lebanon and its water resources, and Washington has always agreed with this plan. For

the White House, Lebanon does not exist, it is only a battlefield". Iddih, however, said the Italian and French contingents should remain. "The Italians are the only ones who never fired a shot against the Lebanese. They must remain because otherwise Beirut will become a gigantic common grave.

"Moreover, the Italians have thus far been accepted and will always be accepted by the Shi'ite population. This is true also for the French who, apart from the folly of the air raid against Ba'labakk, continue to be seen in a positive light by the civilian population".

In another interview, Lebanese Shi'ite leader Nabih Birri said that he favors a pullout of the MNF, including the Italian contingent, and its replacement by UN troops. "I favor a cease-fire and negotiations with the Maronite Christians. I want the unity of Lebanon and the liberation and territorial integrity of my country".

"But there is one point in which I won't budge — the responsibility for ordering the bombardment of the Shi'ite neighborhoods and Beirut's southern outskirts last week. Those bombardments caused 125 thousand refugees as well as casualties. For that reason I had called for President Amin al-Jumayyil's resignation. He is responsible for the behavior of the Army which bombed civilian neighborhoods".

PSP Official Terms Dialogue With Regime 'Futile'

NC151945 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1900 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] In a statement to the Voice of the Mountain, Mushin Dallul, deputy leader of the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP], explained that the stand toward the Army stems from a struggle spanning decades — a struggle aimed at neutralizing the Army and keeping it out of domestic conflicts. Dallul also explained that a dialogue with the present regime — characterized by hegemony and domination — is futile and will produce no results.

Dallul also demanded the departure of the Multinational Forces because they have sided with the Phalangist authority in internal conflicts.

Druze Delegation, Birri Review Developments

NC151226 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] A delegation from the Druze Institutions' Permanent Office has visited Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri to review with him the latest political and security developments. After the meeting, a spokesman for the delegation said: Out of desire to express the unity of the national and Islamic stance, we visited lawyer Birri, affirming the joint line uniting us, particularly in relation to promoting coexistence among all Lebanese factions and to consolidating Beirut's national unity as a first step toward restoring Lebanon's unity and that of its sons on the basis of justice and equality.

We also discussed means of consolidating security and stability, eliminating transgressions, and putting an end to those who fraudulently use the name of national organizations for exploitation.

PSP, Lebanese Communists Assess 'Victory'

NC152145 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 2100 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] A Lebanese Communist Party Command delegation visited the home of Walid Junblatt today where they met with the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] Command. An assessment was made during the meeting of the importance of the liberation of the western Shahhar area, the Khaldah axis, and the coastal road area. This complements earlier victories achieved on the mountain, in nationalist-held Beirut, and the southern suburb. Furthermore, this victory has freed the above-named areas from the hegemony of the Phalangist factional regime. It has also added to the regime's isolation, and curbed its delaying maneuvers designed to save its collapsed positions.

Al-Murabitun's Qulaylat Interviewed by French TV

NC151511 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1330 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] The French Television Channel One interviewed Ibrahim Qulaylat, leader of the Independent Nasirite Movement.

Regarding the nature of the current developments in West Beirut, the southern suburb, and mountain, Qulaylat said: I assure French and international public opinion that the current conflict is not sectarian as some, particularly the Phalange Party, want to depict it. In fact, it is a struggle by the nationalist forces for national and political principles, and to achieve legal changes and reform in the interests of all Lebanese. Without such change and reform, it will not be possible to establish a democratic and national state capable of developing a formula for a national Christian-Muslim coexistence. Furthermore, it will not be possible for all Lebanese to initiate a unified national action to liberate the land and strike at all forms of Zionist ambitions in Lebanon. What confirms this principled stand is the firm struggle of the Lebanese national resistance in the south against the Zionist enemy.

Regarding the prevailing conditions in West Beirut and the degree of coordination among the Al-Murabitun, Progressive Socialist Party [PSP], and Amal, Brother Qulaylat said: The prevailing security and social stability in West Beirut is sufficient to rebut all tendentious rumors disseminated by the hostile Phalangist and Israeli information media, and often by the legal information media. Foreign observers and the international press can ascertain this on the ground. I would like to assure world public opinion, and all those interested in Lebanon's welfare, that the unified national political stand among the PSP, Amal, Al-Murabitun, and the national and Islamic forces was never as tenacious as it is under the current fateful conditions.

Regarding what is being reiterated about the existence of a plan between Al-Murabitun and the Palestinian revolution providing

for the return of the Palestinian revolution's forces to Beirut, and about a meeting between him and Brother Abu Salih [Nimr Salih], Brother Qulaylat said: I am surprised by this emphasis on the Palestinian question and on rumors about the Palestinians' return to Beirut. I would like to say here that due to my position and responsibility in the Independent Nasirite Movement — Al-Murabitun — it is natural to have contacts with the leaders of the Palestinian people at all times and everywhere. The dimensions of the campaign against the Palestinian question and the talk oof the return of the Palestinian revolution's fighters call for caution and alertness, because they're tantamount to a plan aimed at allowing the Zionist enemy to justify his attacks against all West Beirut and the Palestinians in Sabra, Shatila, and Burj al-Barajinah. The Palestinian people and their leaders have a legal right to a presence in any area constituting a line of confrontation and contact with the Zionist enemy. This is our national and patriotic stand.

Mufti Holds Contacts; Shi'ite Council Meets

NC161226 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] Contacts among influential personalities continued today. Within this framework, Shaykh Hasan Khalid, mufti of the Republic, held consultations over the telephone with the deputy chairman of the Higher Shi'ite Islamic Council on the latest political and security developments.

Mufti Khalid was briefed by Brigadier General 'Uthman 'Uthman, acting director general of the Internal Security Forces, on the security measures adopted in the capital and its suburb.

Mufti Khalid reviewed the situation in Beirut with a delegation from Al-Mazra'ah headed by former Minister Nasim Majdalani. The meeting affirmed the continuation of the Christian-Islamic coexistence in West Beirut. The mufti also met with Rashid 'Aqlan, the YAR charge d'affaires, with whom he reviewed the bilateral relations.

Within the framework of meetings by the Higher Shi'ite Islamic Council to follow up developments, the council held a meeting today under Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams ad-Din, its deputy chairman,to discuss the latest developments and daily living and social conditions, and the supply situation.

Shaykh Shams ad-Din and Princess Khawlah Arslan reviewed the latest developments in the country. He also received a delegation of the Druze Institutions' Permanent Office to discuss the security and political developments.

Shams ad-Din Contacts in Political, Security Fields

NC151019 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] His Eminence Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams ad-Din, deputy chairman of the Higher Shi'ite Islamic Council, has followed up the security and political developments in the country. He has maintained continuous contacts and consultations with His Eminence Shaykh Hasan Khalid, mufti of the Republic, and several political and influential figures. He has also followed up the situation regarding the daily supply of basic needs to the citizens of Beirut and its suburb. In this regard, he has contacted Ministers Nuruwwah and Al-Bisat and several humanitarian organizations. He met with the Higher Shi'ite Islamic Council's Social Welfare Committee and asked that intensive efforts be made to ensure the citizens' services.

Shaykh Shams ad-Din has called for a joint meeting of the Higher Islamic Council's committees at 1200 tomorrow as part of the open session.

Shi'ite Leader on Destruction of Suburb

NC121422 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 12 Feb 84

[Text] Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams ad-Din, deputy chairman of the Higher Islamic Shi'ite Council, has followed up the general developments in the country's situation and held a series of contacts and consultations to tackle the situation. Shaykh Shams ad-Din this morning inspected the quarters of Beirut's southern suburb, which suffered extensive damage as a result of the recent events, and acquainted himself with the situation of the citizens in the areas of Bi'r Al-'Abd, Sfayr, Al-Mu'allim, Hayy Madi, and Suq Mu'awwad. He also toured the social welfare and health centers, and called on the officials there to intensify their efforts to serve the citizens.

In a statement after the tour, Shaykh Shams ad-Din called on officials and those interested in public affairs and the political problem, to visit the quarters of the southern suburb, which were punished, as he said, for a sin they did not commit. Shaykh Shams ad-Din referred to the general destruction of houses, which caused the killing, wounding, and displacement of entire areas and the improverishment of their residents, and the general destruction of commercial and economic institutions and social and health services institutions.

Shaykh Shams ad-Din said the civilian population — women, children, and men — is continuing to live under difficult conditions, among the ruins of their houses, without electricity and water.

Shaykh Shams ad-Din maintained that the method with which the southern suburb was treated does not build a state or homeland, but leads to further indignation, rejection, and condemnation. We say to everyone that this is the logic of the strife that burns everyone and results in definite loss. He said if there is anyone who dreams or imagines that this method can influence our political will, he will find out he has committed a terrible mistake. He affirmed that this method will not empty the southern suburb of its residents, divide the Muslims, nor lead the people to disavow a united and fair Lebanon. We care about Muslim unity because this unity will ensure the unity of the Lebanese and will make Lebanon a country for all Lebanese.

Concluding, Shaykh Shams ad-Din affirmed that the general civil resistance against Israel will continue until victory and liberation are achieved.

Shaykh Qabalan Calls for Abrogation of Agreement

NC151300 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1130 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Shaykh 'Abd al-Amir Qabalan, distinguished Ja'farite mufti, has called on the regime to take the initiative to abrogate the 17 May agreement after all parties have assumed the responsibility of liberating Lebanon from the Israeli enemy.

His eminence affirmed that the unity of the Lebanese and the severance of relations with the enemy by some of them will ensure the liberation of the territory and people. Qabalan believes the situation in the country is very serious, and called on those concerned to bring about a comprehensive and final cease-fire as a prelude to a dialogue among the conflicting parties. His eminence stressed the need for fighting partition because it is an absolute evil. He said there must be no differences over Islamic-Christian coexistence in West Beirut and its southern suburb.

PSP Claims Phalangist Militiamen Deserting

NC141410 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1344 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] We have been informed that the Phalangist Party's military police have set up numerous roadblocks in the streets of eastern Beirut to detain Phalangist militiamen who have deserted the contact lines. There have been many desertions. The police are checking identity cards in an attempt to control the increasing acts of desertion.

Al-Biqa' Governor Expelled at Citizens' Request

NC161152 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 1130 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] We have just received the following: At the behest of the distinguished populace of Zahlah, the Al-Biqa' governor has been ousted.

VOL Reports on Wounding of 2 UK TV Reporters

NC161047 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] It has been reported that during an exchange of gunfire in Ad-Damur this morning, two British television correspondents were slightly wounded and taken to the American University Hospital in Beirut.

PSP Says Army Commander Planned 13 Feb Attacks

NC141400 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1342 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Statement issued by a responsible military source of the Progressive Socialist Party on 14 February]

[Text] We have established that the attack launched by the ruling family's army on the evening of 13 February 1984 was personally planned by [Army Commander] Ibrahim Tannus. Tannus himself had reconnoitored these positions. Yesterday, a U.S. lieutenant colonel, who was accompanied by Major Fa'iq Shihab, completed the reconnaissance operation. The U.S. officer promised U.S. help to the Lebanese officers in Tilal ash-Shahhar should the attack fail.

It has been learned that several honorable officers, prompted by their gallantry and true Lebanese feelings, refused to participate in implementing the plan. They asked the Army Command to remove the barriers and illegal forces on the road to the south before proceeding.

Army Battalion Declares Loyalty to National Command

NC151403 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1230 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] The officers and soldiers of of the 43d Battalion of the 4th Brigade today issued a statement which says:

To our kinfolk and brothers throughout Lebanon from all sects and areas: The factional political authorities in Lebanon wanted an army to be an instrument to impose their domination over our kinfolk in this homeland, and to be a strong baton for silencing any voice raised for right or reform. Out of our faith in our homeland and in defense of our people who are suppressed by the force of the authority, we announce our rejection of the orders of the political authorities and our abidance by the course of the national commands defending our people and homeland. We declare to our people and brothers in the Army that we swore allegiance to Lebanon and not to the Lebanese forces. We are maintaining our military discipline and affiliation with the army of all Lebanon, and not the army of the Lebanese forces. Therefore, we announce our loyalty to Staff Major General Hakim, chief of staff of the Lebanese Army, and our solidarity with the officers of the Hammana Barracks and the 1st and 6th Brigades out of faith in their national stand and loyalty to the people and the homeland.

Continuing Reportage on Security Developments

U.S. Overflights, Clashes

NC151556 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Excerpts] U.S. aircraft flew over Lebanese territory at 1610 today, and again 10 minutes later. This was accompanied by artillery fire at Army positions in Suq al-Gharb from 'Aytat and Baysur. Our correspondent reports that the Army units are returning fire. The As-Sayyad and Al-Hazimiyah areas [in Beirut] came under artillery and antiaircraft weapon fire. Clashes started at 1600 today on the Mar Mikha'il, Sfayr, Saqiy al-Hadath, and Hayy al-Amirikan axes and are continuing. Small arms fire was also directed at the Sodeco, An-Nasirah, and Al-Yasu'iyah areas.

According to reports from the Al-Kharrub region, Ar-Rumaylah came under artillery fire at 1545. The shelling ceased a short while ago. Wadi az-Zaynah also came under similar fire.

The 4th Brigade, which evacuated its positions in the Khaldah triangle yesterday, has regrouped in Ad-Damur. This brigade comprisesapproximately 1,600 soldiers.

Army Mountain Positions Shelled

NC151744 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1730 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] I have just received a report that Army positions in Dahr al-Wahsh are being hit by artillery fire from 'Alayh. Some artillery shells and rockets are falling on the outskirts of Al-Kahhalah. Army positions in Suq al-Gharb and its vicinity are receiving similar shelling from 'Aytat, Duhur al-'Ibadiyah, and Baysur.

PSP Reports Ad-Damur Captured

NC151851 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1838 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] The Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] forces have crowned the Amir 'Abdallah operation with yet another victory on the coastal line. The PSP forces occupied the townships of Al-Mishrif and Ad-Damur after clearing them of the treacherous fascist forces.

'Violent' Shelling of 'Alayh

NC151951 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1934 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] The ruling family's army has widened the scope of its aggressions. This army is now carrying out a violent shelling of the city of 'Alayh and its environs. Furthermore, Al-Binnay Township is receiving violent artillery shelling originating from Al-Mukallis and 'Ayn Sa'adah.

Our forces are returning fire violently in an attempt to silence Army positions.

We have also been told that an antitank artillery emplacement of the ruling family's army has been destroyed outside the Officers' Building in Suq al-Gharb.

U.S. Security Guarantee Noted

NC160751 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0630 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] The Lebanese Forces have withdrawn from the Al-Mishrif barracks to positions behind the Ad-Damur River following the redeployment of the Lebanese Army in areas behind the aforementioned line. According to security sources, the Lebanese Forces are now maintaining a new defensive line in the hills overlooking the river extending to the coastal line, south of the estuary of the Ad-Damur River.

Government sources emphasized last night that the Army and people will defend the country, adding that there are U.S. assertions to the effect that any blow against Greater Beirut by any side or quarter would be severely repulsed.

PSP Advance, Phalangist Retreat

NC160758 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 0730 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] Guarded calm prevails along the traditional axes in Beirut and its suburb, and only sporadic sniper fire was reported on the Mar Mikha'il axis. Meanwhile, complete calm prevails in the west Ash-Shahhar area and on the coastal line up to the As-Sa'diyat area, including An-Na'imah, Harat an-Na'imah, and Ad-Damur.

This morning, the Military Command of the Progressive Socialist Party, and the Islamic and nationalist forces asked the citizens to refrain from using the sideroads and quarters in the areas extending from Qabr Shmun junction to the Al-Mishrif area due to mines planted by the Phalangist militias upon their defeat.

We have learned that a state of confusion and retreat prevails within the ranks of the militias present in Al-Jiyah, Wadi az-Zaynah, Ar-Rumaylah, and Al-Mtullah as a result of the defeat they suffered in the Ash-Shahhar area and along the coastal line to the Al-Kharrub region. It was learned that members of the militia succeeded in fleeing to Sidon and its environs wearing civilian clothes after laying down their arms. The militias are setting up several roadblocks on Ar-Rumaylah Road and Wadi az-Zaynah to prevent militia members from fleeing.

Meanwhile, a guarded calm prevails along the traditional axes in the Al-Kharrub region.

PSP Imposes Curfew

NC161234 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1218 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] The Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] Military Command has issued the following statement:

A curfew has been imposed on all of the liberated villages in western Ash-Shahhar and the coast due to the presence of minefields. Therefore, only those who obtain permits from the competent military centers may visit the aforementioned areas. The specialists are currently working to dismantle the mines. The curfew will be in force until further notice.

Suq al-Gharb-'Aytat Axis Clashes

NC160954 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0945 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] Clashes between the Lebanese Army and the Syrian and Junblattist gunmen are now taking place on the Suq al-Gharb-'Aytat axis in which heavy- and medium-caliber weapons are being used. Warplanes are now overflying Ash-Shuf and the mountain in reconnaissance sorties.

U.S. Reconnaissance Flights

NC161003 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] At 1130 today, two U.S. reconnaissance planes flew over the mountain and capital.

VOAL on Attack Against Israeli Patrol

NC161233 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1130 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] Lebanese resistance fighters this morning carried out a new operation against an enemy patrol near the municipality on Riyad as-Sulh Street in Sidon. It was reported the enemy patrol came under rocket and machine gun fire. One vehicle was damaged and several enemy soldiers were killed or wounded.

Iranian Envoy Injured in Damascus Embassy Blast

JN151319 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1506 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Text] An explosion took place in the Iranian Embassy in Damascus this morning, when an explosive charge, which seems to have been placed in a parcel received by the ambassador, went off. An Iranian source told me that this act was carried out by Zionist agents. Iranian Ambassador Hojat ol-Eslam 'Ali Akba Mohtashemi was taken to hospital after sustaining slight wounds. Damage to the embassy, was described as minor. Some doors were damaged and windows were shattered. There was no loss of life.

Arab Organziation Claims Credit

JN151422 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1400 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Iranian Ambassador in Damascus 'Ali Akba Mohtashemi was wounded today when a booby-trapped parcel went off. He was transferred to the hospital after the explosion. A person claiming to belong to an organization calling itself the Arab Organization of 15 May [munazzamat al-khamis min ayyar al-'arabiyah] claimed responsibility for the explosion.

Further Details

NC152054 Paris AFP in English 2036 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Damascus, Feb 15 (AFP) — The Iranian ambassador to Syria, whose hand was injured by a bomb mailed to him in a book yesterday, was transferred to Switzerland late today for urgent medical treatment, a diplomatic source said here. After Hojat ol-Eslam Sayed 'Ali Akba Mohtashemi was treated at a hospital here, doctors determined his wounds had become serious and required intensive treatment in Switzerland, the source said. The Iranian Embassy here had earlier today described the ambassador as being "in excellent health." Teheran Radio blamed the attack on "Zionist agents." The Iranian ambassador is one of the senior officials in charge of the contingent of Iranian Revolutionary Guards in Syria and the Lebanese Al-Biqa' valley.

In Manama, an anonymous caller to the AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE bureau claimed the bombing in the name of an unknown group called "The Arab May 15 Organization." It said the ambassador was "responsible for all criminal sabotage operations by the treacherous Iranian elements in Kuwait, Baghdad and other Arab countries of the Gulf."

Khaddam Receives U.S. Congressman Fowler

JN151235 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] At 1100 today, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received Wyche Fowler, member of the U.S. House of Representatives. During the meeting talks dealt with the current political situation in the region.

Az-Zu'bi Receives Delegation

JN152147 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud az-Zu'bi this afternoon received the visiting U.S. congressional delegation led by Wyche Fowler, member of the U.S. House of Representatives. During the meeting, they discussed the current situation in the region. Fowler asserted that Syria has a distinguished role in the region and is able to contribute to and affect the course of events in order to reach possible solutions that will serve the process of security and peace in this region.

TISHRIN Notes 'Nationalist' Victories in Lebanon

JN160821 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 16 Feb 84

[From the press review]

[Text] In its "Behind the News" column, the newspaper *TISHRIN* writes: It has now become clear that the principle of hegemony and that of Al-Jumayyil regime's dependence on the U.S. fleets and aircraft and its chocie of military force to settle the conflict have been completely foiled by the violent blows that the nationalist forces dealt to the Phalangist army and militias and by the decisive victories these forces have scored on the ground during the past few days despite the guns of the *New Jersey* and despite the Israeli aircraft bombardment of the nationalists' positions in Beirut and the mountain area.

The Lebanese nationalist forces, which confronted the Phalangists in all battles and proved their absolute efficiency and ability, would not have followed the path of fighting if it had not been imposed on them. Al-Jumayyil knows better than anyone that these forces had earlier defined the frameworks of dealing with the regime when they announced their conditions which stipulated the abrogation of the 17 May agreement, the withdrawal of theMultinational Force from Beirut, the neutralization of the Lebanese Army in the conflict, and the formation of a national government that takes upon itself the task of liberating the Lebanese soil from the Zionist invaders.

These forces proved their good will when they went to Geneva with an open mind and accepted the principle of dialogue as a means to resue Lebanon from its ordeal. However, following the first round of the Geneva conference, Al-Jumayyil ignored all that resulted from this conference and decided to adopt the military option, depending on the U.S. fleets and warships and on the Zionist enemy.

In view of the rushing events, the nationalist forces' victories, the increasing U.S. popular and official objection to the Marines' presence in Beirut, and the Al-Jumayyil regime's admission of the infeasibility of the military solution, Reagan himself admitted the futility of depending on this solution to settle the Lebanese conflict. This was also corroborated by Samuel Lewis, U.S. ambassador to Israel, who announced that neither the United States nor Israel possesses a solution to the Lebanese problem.

TISHRIN emphasizes that the Lebanese problem is a purely Lebanese affiar. It adds: The Lebanese people are more capable than anyone else of specifying their aspirations and solving their problems by themselves. Since the beginning of the conflict, the Lebanese nationalist forces have only demanded that Lebanon be for its people and nation. By confronting the U.S.-Israeli plots, Syria is only carrying out a pan-Arab duty. It will continue to offer every possible aid and support to rescue Lebanon from its ordeal because a unified, independent Lebanon is a power and support for Syria. Hence, Syria will not worry about any threat nor accept any bargaining.

AL-BA'TH Critical of Reagan-Mubarak-Husayn Summit

PM151359 Damascus AL-BA'TH in Arabic 12 Feb 84 p 2

[Ilyas Khuri article: "The Tripartite Summit in Washington"]

[Text] It is not a coincidence that Husni Mubarak and King Husayn are in Washington at the same time. The rapid political steps taken in the last few months to implement the U.S. plan to liquidate the Palestinian problem seem to have reached their climax. It is important therefore that Mubarak and Husayn should meet in Reagan's presence in order to brief him on the progress they have made in their recent contacts and to obtain the go-ahead from him to proceed with arranging things in the area in accordance with U.S. plans.

The semi-official announcement about a summit bringing these three persons together in the present circumstances is an indication that the final touches to solve the Palestinian problem have been made. As all the signs indicate the idea is to enter into negotiations with Israel on the basis of both Camp David and the Reagan plan after Jordan obtains a mandate from 'Arafat and his clique for the Jordanian delegation to the negotiations to include representatives from the West Bank and Gaza, as Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali said last week.

It is quite obvious that the three parties realize that there are major obstacles hindering their future moves, for laying down plans and drawing up projects is much easier than actual implementation, particularly since the Arab arena appears to be witnessing an era of a genuine national uprising which was evident in the victory achieved by the Lebanese nationalist forces and the defeat of the rightist Phalangist forces, which was a direct defeat for Reagan's policy and his aggressive line.

For this reason also it was not a coincidence that the U.S. Administration announced its decision to supply Jordan with advanced missiles while it is continuing to exert efforts with Congress in order to approve a special budget for the formation of a Jordanian rapid deployment force. U.S. State Department circles were very clear in linking the decision on the missiles to what they called "the Syrian threat to Jordan."

Despite the naivete and matchless absurdity of this pretext, it throws light on the nature of the future American thinking about the Palestinian problem. The United States realizes that Syria, the Palestinian revolution, and all the Arab liberation forces will fiercely resist any move aimed at liquidating the Palestinian problem and that they will not allow any powers to tamper with this problem.

For this reason supplying Jordan with arms and forming a rapid deployment force, alongside the coming political moves, particularly entering into negotiations with Israel, can only mean preempting events and unifying the stands of those involved in the conspiracy of liquidating the Palestinian problem in order to threaten Syria, encircle it, and hinder its resistance and confrontation of the liquidation conspiracy.

Pro-U.S. Arabs 'Bankrupt' by Reagan Policy

JN151943 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] U.S. involvement in Lebanon's domestic affairs has become an internal U.S. problem that preoccupies U.S. political circles and has a special place in the preparatory activities for the U.S. presidential election campaign. U.S. President Ronald Reagan's opponents are trying to turn his political failure in Lebanon in particular and in the Middle East in general into a fatal blow to his ambitions to renew his term. On the other hand, President Reagan is presenting his failure in Lebanon to the U.S. public in various ways but in a framewrok that neither suggests any failure nor shows the big loss that his policy has caused the U.S. positions in the Middle East, which is very important for various reasons.

It is also certain that the Reagan administration has damaged many U.S. cards in the region. It has also managed to convince even those who did not want to be convinced that the United States is neither qualified to offer, nor capable of offering, any positive contribution to the efforts aimed at finding a settlement that will lead to establishing a just and lasting peace in the region, and that it is unable to assume the role of either goodwill mediator or honest arbitor. President Reagan's administration went even beyond that. By giving a green light for the invasion of Lebanon and for the subsequent U.S. move to exploit that invasion in order to realize the well known U.S. objectives — both old and new — in the region, that administration demonstrated its complete, unlimited bias for Israel's aggression against and unlimited hostility toward the Arabs' interests and rights as well as its indifference to international law and the principles of the UN Charter.

It has been proven that betting on the U.S. role either to meet the Arabs' minimum demands or to implement the UN resolutions on the Palestinian Arab people's rights as well as the Arabs' rights in their lands, and their sovereignty over these lands will bring the Arabs further disasters and calamities, further wars and occupation, and further humiliating compromises. This is because relations between U.S. imperialism and the racist Zionist entity, Israel, are the only factor in U.S. policies in the region. These policies are actually devoted to serving Israel and its interests.

The Reagan administration's behavior and positions have undermined all the stupid allegations that U.S. hands hold all the cards for the solution. They have also undermined any claim about the

existence of the U.S. Admipistration's credibility. Hence, the Reaganadministration's critical situation in Lebanon and in the Middle East is concurrently a critical situation for the pro-U.S. Arabs and for the Arab rulers who either secretly or publicly are betting on the U.S. role and U.S. friendship. With the death of U.S. credibility in the sands of the Lebanese beach and its drowning in Lebanese blood that was unjustly and aggressively shed, any betting on the U.S. role and U.S. plans to find a solution in Lebanon and the region vanished.

Those Arabs who tied themselves to betting on U.S. policy find themselves, during President Reagan's reign, bankrupt and unable to face the Arab masses with their positions and betting on U.S. solutions. Even those who secretly or publicly took steps toward the Camp Reagan that would complete Camp David do not dare reveal their mutual promises and their promises to the U.S. Administration. The moves of some Arabs, who want to catch the train of the U.S. settlement, as well as the meetings they both secretly and publicly hold and the visits they pay to Washington under different pretexts only create embarrassment and a critical situation for themselves. Those who seek moderate or balanced U.S. positions, or those who seek U.S. statements and announcements to cover U.S. plans in the Arab arena, are seeking the impossible. Those who gave a green light for the invasion of Lebanon involved themselves militarily in Lebanon and strongly opposed the Palestinian Arab people's national rights and the principle of the withdrawal of the Israeli occupation forces from all the occupied Arab territories. They will never be able to offer the Arab masses anything that is either acceptable or positive that can be discussed in the Arab arena.

The Reagan administration has undermined every opportunity for assuming a role in the Middle East and has lost many U.S. positions. The U.S. Administration's stupid behavior and aggressive actions have pulled the carpet out from under the feet of the pro-U.S. Arabs and the Arabs who are betting on the U.S. role. The U.S. role in the region is necessarily an Israeli role. Consequently, it is hostile to Arab interests and rights. The Arab masses have rejected that role, as have those who tied themselves to that role and those who promoted or dealt with that role. Any attempt to put the pan-Arab cause and the national cause of every Arab country in U.S. hands is a relinquishment of rights, land, and dignity; and it is a denial of the Arab masses' will and aspirations. It also means abandoning all of the Arabs' winning cards — cards that will shape both the present and the future, both history and geography.

Damascus Reports on Junblatt News Conference

JN152246 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Prorgessive Socialist Party [PSP] leader Walid Junblatt has again rejected any dialogue with Amin al-Jumayyil. He called for convicting those who caused ruin and devastation to Lebanon in the mountain area and in Beirut's southern suburb, as well as those who cooperated with the Zionist enemy. In a news conference he held in Damascus today, Walid Junblatt said that the May agreement was born dead because of the logical circumstances and the fact that it was rejected by Syria and both the Arab and Lebanese nationalist forces. He referred in this regard to President Hafiz al-Asad's confirmation that the 17 May agreement was born dead. The PSP leader greeted Syria under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad. He also greeted the leadership of the 1 September Revolution in the Libyan Jamahiriyah. Junblatt stressed that his call for Al-Jumayyil's resignation does not mean a tendency against the Christians in Lebanon. He said that there is a big difference between the Phalangists and Christianity. We do not want a Phalangist president, Junblatt said.

Junblatt called for a radical political reform that gives all Lebanese citizens their rights on the basis of canceling poltical sectarianism. Junblatt stressed Lebanon's Arabism and rejected the partitioning of the country. Junblatt once again called for the departure of the multinational force and the invading Israeli forces from Lebanon, stressing that he accepts the dispatch of neutral forces under the UN auspices. He noted that the Lebanese chief of staff will hold contacts with the Lebanese nationalist officers in the 6th and 1st Brigades in Al-Biqa' in order to form a nationalist command to run various affairs in West Beirut and the areas liberated from the Phalangist hegemony.

Regarding Al-Jumayyil's meeting with former President Sulayman Franjiyah, Junblatt said that Al-Jumayyil will try to use this meeting to lift the noose from around his neck. Junblatt reiterated that the Lebanese nationalist forces are alongside the Palestinian right. These forces, he said, will be the best armor for the Palestinian right.

Libya's Jallud Holds Damascus News Conference

JN152047 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud, member of the leadership of the 1 September Revolution in Libya, has asserted that Syria under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad will remain the rock of Arab steadfastness on which all imperialist, Zionist, and reactionary plots will founder. In a news conference he held this evening, Maj Jallud spoke highly of the Syrian Arab people's pariotic struggle under the leadership of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and its secretary general, militant Comrade Hafiz al-Asad. He reconfirmed the Libyan Jamahiriyah's support for the just struggle of the Lebanese nationalist forces and for their confrontation of Phalangist hegemony, the U.S. warships' artillery, and the Israeli occupation of Lebanon. He added that the U.S. Administration is responsible for the killing and devastation now taking place in Lebanon, because this administration has imposed an agreement of occupation on the Lebanese people.

Maj Jallud condemned the U.S. forces' continued aggression against the Lebanese citizens, aggression that is taking place in coordination with the ruling regime in Beirut. He called for withdrawing these forces, which are protecting the Phalangist administration and are indiscriminately shelling innocent elderly people, women, and children as well as the residential quarters. On the tripartite meeting King Husayn, Husni Mubarak, and Reagan held in Washington, Maj Jallud said that this meeting came within the framework of coordination among these parties with the aim of selling out the Arabs' central cause of Palestine and peddling the capitulatory solutions in the region.

Further Details

NC160742 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0715 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] Through the opposition forces in Lebanon, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi can make the U.S. President fail in the coming elections. This was emphasized by Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud at a news conference in Damascus. He said that Libya has supplied the opposition forces in Lebanon with large quantities of arms and is giving them material, moral, and political support so that Libya, through these opposition forces, can make the U.S. President fail in the coming elections, according to 'Abd as-Salam Jallud.

Delegation to Andropov Funeral Returns

JN151747 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Damascus — The Syrian party and state delegation comprised of Comrades 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, Ba'th Party assistant secretary genral; Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm, the prime minister; General Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief of the Army and the Armed Forces and defense minister; and the delegation accompanying them to represent Syria at Soviet leader Yuriy Andropov's funeral, returned to Damascus from Moscow this afternoon. The delegation extended condolences to the Soviet leadership in the name of comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad, Ba'th Party secretary general and president of the republic, and for the state and party leadership, and the National Progressive Front in Syria.

Al-Ahmar Meetings in Moscow

JN151826 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Comrade Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, who was elected to the post after Andropov's death, has received the heads of the delegations that participated in the funeral. 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, Ba'th Party assistant secretary general, extended congratulations to Comrade Chernenko on his election as general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee during the committee's meeting on 13 Feburary 1984.

On this occasion, Comrade al-Ahmar met with Cunhal, secretary general of the Portuguese Communist Party [PCP]. During the meeting, the two sides discussed relations between the two parties and the means of promoting them. The Ba'th Party assistant secretary general briefed Comrade Cunhal on the events that are taking place in the Middle East, particularly in the Lebanese arena, and on U.S. and Israeli responsibility for escalating the security situation and pushing events toward the explosion point. Cunhal, secretary general of the PCP, praised Syria's role and its firm position against imperialism under Comrade Hafiz al-Asad, Ba'th Party secretary general and president of the republic

Comrade Al-Ahmar also met with George Hawi, secretary general of the Lebanese Communist Party. They discussed the latest political developments in Lebanon and the Arab region.

Arens Warns Lebanon Against Accord Cancellation

TA151811 Jerusalem Domestic Service In English 1800 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Defense Minister Moshe Arens made it plain tonight Israel will act if the Lebanese Government moves to cancel the treaty between the two countries. He was speaking to the conference of presidents of major American Jewish organizations in Tel Aviv. Tony Gadot reports:

[Begin recording] [Gadot] The minister of defense said this evening that should Lebanon's President al-Jumayyil unilaterally cancel the May 17th agreement with Israel, Israel would have no option other than to remain in the security zone in southern Lebanon for some time to come.

[Arens] In the absence of being able to come to an agreement with somebody, that somebody is ready to keep, the only thing left is a security zone that we control and by virtue of that control, we can arrive at a reasonable assurance that it will be impossible or very difficult to carry out terrorist acts against the Galilee, to carry out shellings against the Galilee.

This is what we are doing right now, and by the looks of it, this is what we will for some time to come.

[Gadot] Arens also criticized the Israeli-Egyptian agreement, saying that in returning the Sinai with its strategic depth, settlements and oil wells, Israel received a piece of paper that is not being honored in full by the Egyptian Government. [end recording]

Arens Warns Shi'ites, Druze

TA151827 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1810 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Tel Aviv, 15 Feb (ITIM) — Defense Minister Moshe Arens said this evening that in light of the situation in Lebanon, Israel has no choice but to keep holding on to southern Lebanon — which Israel is doing today, and will continue to do in the foreseeable future as well.

The minister was addressing members of the conference of presidents of major American Jewish organizations in the Defense Ministry's Tel Aviv office, and he said that Israel had hoped the Lebanese Army would move south and take over command posts, but that Army disintegrated after the Druze took control of the coastal road and President al-Jumayyil has remained "enclosed" in East Beirut.

The defense minister warned Walid Junblatt against "crossing the line" and taking an anti-Israeli position, in which case Israel will be forced to regard him as its enemy. He also recalled that in fighting against Al-Jumayyil, both the Shi'ites and the Druze were supported by the PLO. "We told them: Be careful, if you should take measures against Israel, we will be forced to worry about our defense," the defense minister said.

Professor Arens noted that Junblatt's television interview yesterday evening was unpleasant for Israel and the Israeli Druze. Junblatt said that "the Syrians are Arabs like us, and I am their ally."

The defense minister added that Israel would like the pact between the Shi'ites, the Druze, and Israel's enemies not to include steps against Israel, especially since Israel has nothing against the Shi'ites and the Druze.

Speaking about relations with Egypt, Mr Arens noted that Egypt has been reinforcing its Army swiftly, to which end it has been supported by the United States. However, the Egyptian Army's deployment in the Sinai is more or less in accordance with the peace agreement. He added that if Egypt had pursued the normalization process and taken care to maintain proper peaceful ties, Israel would not have taken notice [sama lev] of the deployment of the Egyptian Army and its reinforcement.

Mr Arens concluded his address with a call on U.S. Jews to immigrate to Israel, as Israel is in need of immigrants, and the most important thing for it is aliyah. "If you manage to do this, you will be doing great things for Israel," he told the leaders of U.S. Jewry.

Levi Criticism of U.S. Reflects Shamir Views

TA151625 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Sources in the prime minister's office say that the criticism of the United States leveled by the deputy prime minister reflects the prime minister's positions. These sources told our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer that the prime minister is not upset over David Levi's remarks against the U.S. moves in Lebanon and the meeting between President Reagan and King Husayn and President Mubarak.

Yitzhaq Shamir met with his deputy, David Levi, at noon and updated him on the latest developments in preparation for Shamir's trip to Brussels next week. David Levi will be acting prime minister when Yitzhaq Shamir meets with the EEC ministers in Brussels and the Netherlands prime minister.

Ben-Elisar on Lebanon Policy, Mubarak Statement

TA151947 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] The chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, Eliyahu Ben-Elisar, has rejected Egyptian President Mubarak's criticism of Israel's policy in Lebanon. President Mubarak charged Israel is responsible for Lebanon's problem and should withdraw immediately, without any conditions. Dr Ben-Elisar spoke to reporter Jack Katzenell.

[Begin recording] [Katzenell] Dr Ben-Elisar says President Mubarak knows very well that Israel has never had any designs on Lebanese territory. In Ben-Elisar's view, Israel's actions in Lebanon are serving Egypt's interests as much as Israel's own.

[Ben-Elisar] President Mubarak does not wish Syria to get hold completely of Lebanon. I would say that the interests of Egypt, of Israel, of the United States, of Lebanon itself, and of other Arab nations, except Syria of course, and Libya, are very much identical.

[Katzenell] Ben-Elisar also condemns the Mubarak praise for Yasir 'Arafat. 'Arafat is no moderate, Ben-Elisar said. He still aims to destroy the State of Israel.

With regard to President Reagan's meeting with President Mubarak and King Husayn of Jordan, Ben-Elisar warns the United States that there can be no progress towards a Middle East settlement unless Israel is also involved.

[Ben-Elisar] In the enterprise called the Middle East, Israel has 50 percent of the shares, not more but not less.

[Katzenell] Ben-Elisar sees the latest military defeat of the Lebanese Army as a sign that Israel must rely on her own forces and prepare for a long stay in Lebanon.

[Ben-Elisar] We have to stay in Lebanon, as long as Lebanon is actually less and less Lebanese.

[Katzenell] Does this mean indefinitely?

[Ben-Elisar] Nobody should make any prophecies in the Middle East, but I think that it should be for such a period, till circumstances will change. Withdrawing today from Lebanon back home, although we would all of us like it to happen, will mean that we are offering the whole of Lebanon to Syria on a silver platter.

[Katzenell] If Israel makes a hasty withdrawal from Lebanon, Ben-Elisar believes, the security situation in south Lebanon would be worse than it was in June 1982, before Operation Peace for Galilee. [end recording]

Jerusalem Arabic Cites Ben-Elisar

JN152116 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 15 Feb 84

[From the "With the Events" program]

[Text] The Druze and Shi'ites in Lebanon are fully aware of the Israeli position, which does not allow for the collapse of the Christians' status in Lebanon. This is what Dr Eliyahu Ben-Elisar, chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, said in an exclusive interview this afternoon with our colleague Yig'al Kenig, who is now at the Knesset building.

[Begin Kenig recording] Dr Eliyahu Ben-Elisar, chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, said in the interview I had with him this afternoon that this statement does not mean he supports adopting Israeli military measures at the present time.

He also said that the almost total collapse of the central authority in Lebanon under President Amin al-Jumayyil's leadership took place faster than we expected. This he said, is an inevitable result of the U.S. Marines' evacuation from Beirut.

He emphasized that the new situation in Lebanon makes it incumbent on Israel to keep its forces in Lebanon in order to guarantee the safety of the State of Israel. Asked whether he now sees a possibility for a partial Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, Dr Ben-Elisar said he does not consider the Al-Awwali line to be Israel's permanent border.

He added that the government, in cooperation with the IDF, will decide the ideal borders for Israel. He stressed that there are some areas to which the IDF may have to advance, and not withdraw. [end recording]

Lubrani: IDF Withdrawal Would Bring 'Holocaust'

TA160833 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0821 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] The coordinator of activities in Lebanon, Uri Lubrani, said this morning that an IDF unilateral withdrawal from Lebanon would bring a holocaust. As long as we are there, with all the difficulties this involves, we still have some sort of influence and a chance of bringing about a dialogue among all the internal elements in Lebanon.

This is what Lubrani said at a study day on the issue of Israeli policy in Lebanon. He also pointed out that he did not see any possibility of Israel staying permanently in Lebanon and, in his opinion, the government's intention is to leave there as fast as possible. His remarks were reported by our correspondent Uri Ginosar.

IDF Continues Activities Beyond Al-Awwali Line

TA161130 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] The IDF's military activities north of the Al-Awwali line continue irrespective of the developments in Beirut and Ad-Damur, our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports.

The IDF is closely following events and continues to hold patrols along the coastal road and in other areas north of the Al-Awwali River.

The purpose of the patrols is to ensure that terrorists do not penetrate those areas.

Our military correspondent adds that as far as is known, the Druze have not conquered the town of Ad-Damur. Their troops are situated near the town, on the coastal road, and are controlling its outskirts.

Military sources have told our correspondent that Israel will not allow the terrorists to link up with the Druze and get settled in the area, and that Israel will operate against them if they try to recapture positions in the areas vacated by the IDF.

Flow of Lebanese Refugees South Increases to 12,000
TA151855 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Excerpts] The stream of Lebanese refugees fleeing the fighting to the area controlled by Israel in the south swelled to 12,000 by this evening. The Israeli army is expected to keep the bridges across the Al-Awwali open again tonight to help the refugees cross. Reporter Vivien Royston was at the main Al-Awwali crossing point today:

[Begin recording][Royston] Hundreds of Lebanese Army soldiers from the 4th Division, bereft all of their uniforms, joined the thousands of refugees fleeing south across the Al-Awwali bridge crossing into Israeli-held territory today. They had been stripped of their weapons by Haddad militiamen at the checkpost, just north of the crossing, and several officers came to the deputy commander of the Al-Awwali crossing to seek help. The Israeli official explained that in fact they were permitted to take their personal weapons.

At the Christian school, just south of the Al-Awwali crossing, where the IDF was distributing hot drinks and blankets, Salih from Al-Jiyah was quite clear why they were coming south.

[Salih] We came here just because this is an Israeli area, only, because it is safe here, we think Sidon with the Israelis is safe, so we came here. We ran away from Ad-Duwayr.

[Royston] Events are moving quickly, and as ever the civilians are caught in the middle. [end recording]

Druze Promise Loyalty to Israeli 'Understanding'
TA151220 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Druze leaders from Lebanon have promised IDF officers that they are loyal to the understanding achieved with Israel, according to which they will not permit the terrorists to act from the area under their control.

The Druze leaders confirmed that terrorists were fighting alongside their forces, but they pointed out that this was a question of a few dozen, and they would be made to return to Bhamdun or 'Alayh at the end of the fighting.

Peres Comments on Mubarak Statements, Lebanon
TA151146 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Excerpt] In Jerusalem today there have been sharp reactions to Mubarak's remarks. David Essing reports on this and the deterioration in Lebanon:

Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has held consultations and, speaking this morning, opposition leader Shim'on Peres summed up the feeling in Jerusalem when he said the Lebanese Christians are now in a dangerous situation.

Until now, Israel has carefully avoided getting involved in the communal fighting. Should Israeli forces now intervene on behalf of the Lebanese Christians? Shim'on Peres:

[Begin Peres recording] I wouldn't like to make any declarations on that point, but I feel that, like in the past, we have to help them by helping themselves, not by our getting involved directly. [end recording]

[Essing] The opposition leader told the presidents' conference today that the longer Israel stays in Lebanon, the greater Lebanese resentment will be.

Peres spoke of a flexible security zone in south Lebanon, Israel pulling out, and making it clear to one and all that if the PLO and the Katyushas return, Icraeli forces will be back in force.

The opposition leader also blasted the outcome of President Reagan's meeting with Egypt's President Mubarak and Jordan's King Husayn. Peres in particular criticized the Egyptian leader's support for PLO chief Yasir 'Arafat.

[Begin Peres recording] I think he makes the life of Husayn more difficult by supporting 'Arafat, making the weight of 'Arafat heavier than it is in real terms, and we would be extremely worried if the U.S. Administration would take a stand on the side of Mubarak to increase, artificially, either the weight or the hope, which is an unbased hope, of 'Arafat in the future or forthcoming policies in the Middle East. [end recording]

Rosenne: Egypt Violates Peace Agreements
TA151707 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Israel's ambassador to Washington says Egypt is violating the peace agreements and that there is an increasing number of people in Israel who ask whether it is worth our while to make such great sacrifices for peace.

In an interview with our correspondent Razi Barqay, Me'ir Rosenne criticized President Mubarak's statements, saying that Yasir 'Arafat danced with joy when President as-Sadat was murdered, while As-Sadat's successor is now calling for a dialogue with 'Arafat.

Karp Report on Territories Law Enforcement

Part Two

TA101158 Jerusalem GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE in English 7 Feb 84

[Report by Deputy Attorney General Yehudit Karp, addressed to attorney General Prof Yitzhaq Zamir, entitled "The Karp Report: Cases Investigated in Detail," Part Two — dated 25 May 1982]

[Text] Middle Section of the Karp Report

Police investigations

A. The head of the claims section at the Israel Police national headquarters, who is a member of the inquiry team, took on herself the rather difficult task of collecting, on an ongoing basis, the reports on complaints and investigations in Judaea and Samaria (via the heads of investigation offices in the various Judaea and Samaria districts), to keep track of how the investigations went and to report periodically to the team.

B. The commission examined some 70 occurrences which were included in the reports, including psychological (the minority of cases), armed threats, threats, trespassing, assault, damage to property, and breaches of order. Of these 70 files, the investigation of 15 led to the files being passed on to the state's attorney with a recommendation to prosecute; 33 of the files were closed; and the handling of 20 (in four of which, the investigative material had not been located) had not yet been completed. Only five of the files whose handling had not yet been completed are from March and April. The investigation of the remainder had been going on for more than six months, in some cases — for more than a year (10 cases dealt with events which took place in April and May 1981, and four were opened in November and December 1981).

Experience has shown that protracted investigations of the above kind are not likely to have results, and one may therefore say that of the aforementioned 70 cases, 53 have reached a dead end.

Approximately half of the 53 closed files were closed on the grounds of offender unknown; five were closed for lack of evidence; seven because no charge was brought; and three for lack of public interest.

The inquiry team did not examine the entire group of cases to the full, but random checks yielded 15 files in which the team thought that investigation was either poor or contained substantive defects. Some of them are cases whose handling was not completed, and some were closed in the wake of investigation, as was said above.

It should also be pointed out that in some cases, investigation was begun only following the commission's request (this will be discussed below), and that in several cases it turned out that reports to the commission were either defective (some 10 complaints were not included in the reports) or deviated from the procedures established by the inquiry team (some 6 files).

C. The findings of the inquiry team should be read subject to the following two reservations:

(1) The methods and the quality of the investigation may be subject to reliable ethical evaluation only by comparing the investigating authorities' operation in the sector examined by the team with their operation in other sectors of the Judaea and Samaria area, and with their operation in Israel (a comparison which was beyond the inquiry team's ability).

(2) the quality of the investigating authorities' operation cannot oe evaluated without taking into account common constraints such as manpower shortages, the level of the investigators, orders of priority, language difficulties, a hostile Arab population, and other factors which have nothing to do with the issue of the identity of the complainants and the subjects of their complaints, and which can serve as grounds for slowness in an investigation, failure of an investigation, or the closing of a case without the investigation having been thoroughly exhausted.

From the picture emerging from the collective total of the inquiry team's findings, one may conclude with reasonable certainty that the report's findings point to a situation which can neither be justified nor accounted for only by general constraints, and which clearly reveals special background characteristics, and a seriously problematic situation which stems from those characteristics.

D. The above finding is based on the following:

1. The ratio between the overall number of files and those files which were closed without prosecution, and the percentage of files closed on the grounds of offender unknown.

The handling of many files went on for an unreasonable length of time, regardless of the sensitivity of the issue under investigation. The inquiry team takes a very grave view of the slow pace of investigation (and the pace of reporting) in cases of death from shooting. It should also be pointed out that even in those cases where the state attorney's office had given its commitment to the Supreme Court to conduct an effective investigation, the inquiry team's efforts to expedite handling were to no avail.

3. [number as received] The aforementioned cases, which are the most conspicuous of those checked by the commission, are enough to move the above conclusion from the sphere of estimation to that of fact. They will be detailed below in what may seem over-elaboration, because this, in and of itself, will suffice to exhibit — without further explanation — the background, the characteristics, and the contradictions between commitment and reality. The Bet Hadassah Affair (Supreme Court File 175/81)

A. On 29.4.81, the Supreme Court discussed, inter alia, the claim of the petitioners, to the effect that those holding Bet Hadassah were harassing residents of the city, especially those living nearby, their declared and understood aim being to intimidate residents and scare them away — in order to realize their right to settle in Hebron. The court found the complaints about the demolition of a part of a ceiling in a shop in Bet Hadassah which was kept by one of the petitioners as a protected tenant, to be very serious. The court said:

"The petitioner's complaints to the court said that on the day after the festival of Purim, he saw that the ceiling had collapsed. The 'explanation' given him by those living on the floor above was that it had happened by accident, as a result of festive dancing. At first, the petitioner hesitated as to whether to complaint: Later on, he said that if the damage were fixed, he would forget the incident. However, the following day he reported (in another complaint to the police) that his merchandise had also disappeared. He added that the building's residents had repeatedly urged him to hand the shop over to them, claiming that in the past, this had been a stairwell which led to the synagogue. This complaint, which we view as serious, did not receive proper handling. It is evident from the statement of the defendants that after the ceiling was repaired, the file was closed. The explanation that they thus were trying to calm things down is far from satisfactory."

The court added: "There is no doubt that the main function of the ruler in an administered territory is to maintain law and order. We must do so even in the absence of any complaints from the local residents. At the same time, it is important to clarify to the residents their right and duty to lodge complaints whenever they are harassed, and to insist that the complaints be looked into and that the steps required by the conclusions reached be taken.

"Only after the defendants' learned counsel declared that the investigative file on the shop affair had been reopened, and that orders had been given to treat breaches of order with utmost seriousness, did we see no further need to issue an order nisi regarding the complaints. We would like to believe that from now on the handling will be effective, and that offenders will be prosecuted."

The court rejected the request (to issue an order nisi) on the basis of a declaration by a representative of the state that "steps had been taken to ensure that law and order would be maintained, and that residents' complaints against those holding the Hadassah building would be expedited and handled effectively."

b. On 6.5.81, 25.5.81, and 26.5.81, the director of the department of Supreme Court matters in the state attorney's office called the attention of all elements involved — including the coordinator of activities in the territories, the commander of the Judaea and Samaria area, and the head of investigations branch at the Israeli Police national headquarters — to the court's remarks, to the criticism of the investigation, and to the commitment given the court by the state to continue the investigation.

It should also be pointed out that prior to the supreme court's decision, the state attorney had asked the head of investigations branch at national headquarters to investigate the petitioners' complaints, stressing that he attached utmost importance to the isssue (his letter of 14.4.81).

C. And what became of the investigation?

On 18.6.81, a month after the commitment was given to the Supreme Court, the investigation was passed on to the attorney general, together with the final report of Superintendant Kalij (head of the Judaea investigation office). The report did not address the main point which the police had been asked to investigate — namely, whether (name deleted) and others had committed the criminal offenses of assault and criminal trespass in conjunction with the damage caused to the shop. In the same report, Superintendent Kalij attributed the fact that the police had refrained from conducting a comprehensive investigation immediatley after the event to an order given by the Hebron military governor to the commander of the Hebron (police) station. Yet the aforementioned report did not make any attempt to establish investigative findings re the plaintiff's complaint. It also took no position on whether anyone could be charged with causing the damage, nor in regard to the credibility of the claim that the damage had been caused by dancing.

In his letter of 21.6.81 to the head of investigations branch at national headquarters, the state's attorney points out that he is not at all convinced that all the testimony on these points, which one would expect to have been gathered, had indeed been gathered.

The file was returned to the police for completion of the investigation and came back only in February 1982 — i.e., eight months after being given to the police for completion of the investigation (and two months short of a year from the date when the Supreme Court ordered an in-depth investigation).

C. Here it is worthwhile to cite the conclusions of the Jerusalem District attorney, to whom the file was given after completion of the investigation. In his letter of 1.2.82, he wrote:

"The following facts emerge from the police file:

Friday 20.3.81 was Purim eve. A Hebron upholsterer, who owns a store below Bet Hadassah, closed his shop at 11:00, as is his custom on Fridays. On arriving at the store the next morning, he discovered a 1.5 meter hole in the ceiling above his shop, a ceiling which serves as the floor of Bet Hadassah. The upholsterer went to the police to lodge a complaint, and clarifications with the military government revealed that on Friday night, there had been Purim "dancing" in Bet Hadassah, thereby creating the hole. The incident was reported to the military government on Friday night by (name deleted), and it was agreed that the damage would be repaired and the upholsterer compensated. The upholsterer went to the Hebron mayor's office the same day, where he was told to start fixing the ceiling. To support the ceiling, the upholsterer and his sons brought iron bars and began work. But the plywood placed over the hole gave way, and (name deleted) told them to stop working because they were desecrating the Sabbath. After the Sabbath, the upholsterer resumed work, and while he was by the hole, the plywood again gave way, and (name deleted) ordered him to stop working, and pushed his hand through the hole towards the upholsterer. (Name deleted)'s finger poked the corner of the upholsterer's right eye, which then began tearing — though it wasn't injured and required no medical treatment.

At midnight, a military government officer visited Bet Hadassah and saw that the entire ceiling had collapsed, and that the store was being emptied by a group of youths. When he asked what was going on, (names deleted) said that the ceiling had collapsed, and the cotton in the store was liable to get dirty, so they were removing it. About two and a half hours later, after receiving a

report that the door to the store was open, the same officer went back to the store and saw (name deleted) telling an officer that he was now witnessing the renewal of Jewish settlement in Hebron.

On Sunday, when the upholsterer returned to his store and saw it was empty, without a ceiling, but with a stairwell, he sat by the entrance and began to bemoan his bitter fate. Three armed Bet Hadassah men, who were not identified, approached him with (name deleted) and asked him to remove himself from the store entrance. When he told them it was his store, the three stepped on his feet and pushed him outside, where they together picked him up and either led or threw him out. The man's son showed up while this was going on; he, too, was pushed in the incident, and his left arm hurt him as a result. The upholsterer then went to the police and lodged a formal complaint. In the complaint, the upholsterer says that the ceiling was damaged according to what he was told by (name deleted), by the dancing — and that he was to be compensated. But when he returned the next day he saw the whole ceiling had been destroyed, and three youths whom he could identify pushed him outside.

After this complaint was lodged, both the Military Government and the police promised that the situation would be restored to the status quo ante as swiftly as possible; everything was indeed repaired with maximum speed, and everything that had been broken was either repaired or replaced. Even areas that hadn't previously been florred were now paved. The only damage left unrepaired was that the good cotton got mixed with the bad...

From this description of the facts, the involvement of (name deleted) is clear, both in what happened to the store ceiling and in what happened to the storekeeper. It is difficult to assume that the hole in the ceiling was indeed caused by the wild dancing, though there is also some question whether it can be proved in court that the hole was caused deliberately, as well as that (name deleted) was involved in the deed. The same difficulty exists with regard to the 'collapse' of the ceiling...

The evidence concerning the assaults is stronger, although here, too, there are difficulties..."

(E) In the end, the state attorney decided on 8 March 82 that: "Taking into consideration the difficulty of proof and other circumstances of the incident, such as the fact that the complaintant was generously compensated, and is apparently uninterested in reopening the matter, it seems to me that this case should be closed."

(F) It would appear that these things speak for themselves, and there is reason to think that the lack of proper action immediately upon receipt of the complaint also contributed to the fact that law and order were not fully maintained in this instance.

But what is most serious and noteworthy in this connection is what is said in Superintendent Kalij's letter of 1 June 82, whereby the Hebrew military governor ordered the commander of the Hebrew police station not to investigate. This order by the military governor not to deal with the incident was used by the head of the Judaea investigations office to justify the police's failure.

It should be further noted that the head of the Judaea investigations office, who reported to the inquiry team on the Bet Hadassah investigation, clearly said that there had been a conspiracy of silence in this incident, and that not everyone who could have been interrogated was questioned.

B. The Charges Against (Name deleted)

(A) The case revolves around complaints of trespassing, threats accompanies by shooting, and denial of access. The complaints were directed at a man by the name of (name deleted), who lives in one of the Judaea and Samaria settlements and does not hold any official post. In the wake of the petition submitted to the Supreme Court, a clarification was held, whence it emerged that this same man had brought a bulldozer into a field without any legal authority or order from the area command. It was also found that local residents had filed complaints in the past accusing the same individual of very grave actions, and police investigative files had been opened against him. The complaints revolved around events that took place in February and March 1981.

(B) On 7 April 81, the attorney general wrote to the head of the Police Investigations Branch, asking him to order an investigation, due to suspicions that this (name deleted) had committed offenses.

(C) On 27 May 81, a written reminder was sent to the police by the inquiry team.

(D) The investigative files were transferred to the Supreme Court matters department of the State Attorney's Office before the investigation had been completed, and without recommendations; they were subsequently returned once more to the police for completion of the investigation.

(E) On 19 June 81, another reminder was sent to the national headquarters by the inquiry team.

(F) On 2 September 81, the head of the prosecutions section at national headquarters returned the investigative files to the head of the Samaria investigations office, with a note that the investigation had not been completed, and with a detailed list of the steps to be taken to complete it (ascertaining ownership rights, etc.).

(G) On 6 September 81, the head of the Samaria investigations office closed one of the files on grounds of offender unknown (contrary to the procedures laid down by the inquiry team, according to which he was supposed to transfer the file to the district attorney).

On 29 October 81, five files were transferred to the attorney for the central district, with a recommendation that they be closed. (The inquiry team asked the district attorney to explain the grounds for the closure; as of today, they have not been supplied.)

One file was transferred to the military prosecutor in Nablus, and another to the magistrate's court in Tulkarm; investigations have still not been completed on three more files as of this writing, i.e., one year and three months after the events. The reason given

to the team to justify the failure to complete the investigation is that they were waiting for the Judaea and Samaria surveyor (nine months after the file was transferred to the head of the Samaria investigations office for the purpose of carrying out the surveying).

C. The Qedumim Episode (Supreme Court Case 430/81)

The director of the Supreme Court Matters Department wrote on this issue on 25 September 81 to the head of the National Police Headquarters Investigation Branch, as follows:

"1. A petition has been filed with the supreme court, in which the petitioners claim that they own lands in the village of Qadum in the Judaea and Samaria area, and that their lands were sewn and planted with olive trees. Likewise, the petitioners charge that in the months of May and June of this year, approximately 300 trees were uprooted from these lands and that acts of trespassing and damage to property were committed. The petitioners further charge that a complaint was lodged with the Israel Police about the above acts, and that appeals on this issue were directed also to military government representatives.

"2. For the purposes of drawing up the reply to the petition, we sought to clarify the facts; and in a meeting which I held for this purpose, the head of the Tulkarm investigations office and his assistant also took part. The abovementioned police officer presented me with the investigative file which had been opened on this issue.

"3. A study of the ivestigative file shows that complaints were indeed lodged with the Tulkarm police about the matter raised in the petition, and that the police investigation revealed that hundreds of trees were indeed cut down and uprooted, and illegal actions were indeed perpetrated with regard to land to which the petitioners claim rights. The case was closed, on grounds of 'offender unknown.'

"4. While I am aware of the many difficulties involved in the identificaiton and tracing of offenders in cases involving harassment of residents of Judaea and Samaria, we have already repeatedly warned that every effort must be made in order to try to complete investigations and locate offenders (you surely remember the Bet Hadassah affair in Hebron).

"5. Concerning the subject of the petiiton under discussion, we shall have to explain to the Supreme Court what actions were taken in treating the complaints lodged with both the police and the military government. For myself, I am of the opinion that it was possible at least to try to discover the identity of one of the main offenders in the case, as the complainant in the police file gave a description of a man who had threatened him a day before the acts were committed; moreover, a police investigator at the site found one of the Qedumim settlers there. Furthermore, according to the complaint, a tractor was also at the site, and it could be ascertained who used it. I have therefore asked the head of the Tulkarm investigations bureau to reopen the case and complete it.

"I see fit to take this opportunity to reiterate that those responsible for investigations in the Judaea and Samaria area be instructed as to the importance of investigative activities aimed at finding out who is responsible for acts of violence and disturbances of the peace in the area.

"I would be grateful, therefore, if you would direct that I be speedily provided with the findings of the investigation, as well as a report on the actions taken as a result of the investigation, as the petition is scheduled for a hearing in the Supreme Court on 16 November 81."

The file returned (sic) for completion of the investigation, and in spite of the indications, which might, it seemed, have served as a basis for identifying the suspects, the file was returned on the completion of the investigation exactly as it was sent out, and submitted months later to the central district attorney's office, with a recommendation that it be closed. It may be assumed that the passage of time, along with the absence of a substantive investigation close to the (time of the) complaint, are what precluded the possibility of completing the investigation.

D. The Case of the Relations of Shilo and Kafr Karyut

(A) In the months of September and November, 1981, Attorney Khouri complained, on behalf of the residents of Kafr Karyut, that his clients were being driven off their lands by force by settlers of Shilo who had illegally — using weapons and armed threats — seized and trespassed on his clients' lands.

In his letter to the deputy legal counsel to the Judaea and Samaria area command, Attorney Khouri notes that the military government had in the past, when his complaints about trespassing had proved to be justified, intervened in order to return the situation to the status quo ante; and he adds:

"On 5 November 81, after you informed me that the Shilo settlers were not under your jurisdiction, and that you could not force them to leave the areas they were trespassing on; and after I informed you that in the past my clients had complained to the police about the matter — but the police did not open a file and directed them to the military government, who did nothing in this matter — you advised me to complain to the police again, and that you for your part would see to it that the police handled the matter as required by law. My clients lodged a complaint on 5 November 81, and on that same day the investigator, Mr Halim Cas, of the Nabulus police force, called me and told me that he was handling the complaint, and that the settlers would be interrogated about the matter." Mr Khouri ends his letter by expressing the hope that the Shilo settlers would be prosecuted for breaking the law and trespassing — and that the police, with the army's help, would prevent further violations of the law by the settlers, and prevent them from provoking and threatening his clients. In his letter of 9 November 81, to the attorney general, Attorney Khouri complains that the violations of the law by the settlers were not halted, and in his words, "they continue to do whatever they want in the belief that they are immune and protected (perhaps justly) by the military government and the government, who support them and back them up..."

(B) During the discussion on 2 November 81 in the office of the director of high court affairs, and with the participation of the head of the inquiry team, the Shilo inspector and the Tulkarm

District rural officer made it clear that they had received many complaints about harassment by Israeli settlers. As a result of this meeting, the head of the international law division requested, on behalf of the military advocate general of the Judaea and Samaria command, that the complaints lodged with the police and with the districts be compiled and submitted to the chairperson of the inquiry team.

(C) On 1 December 81, Major Shim'on Stein, assistant legal counsel to the Judaea and Samaria command, wrote the following letter to the Israel police:

"1. In my telephone conversation, to which you refer, I was told that the file, although opened at the Nabulus station, had been transferred to the Ramallah station.

"2. Owing to the great sensitivity in handling this case — and this because of the fact that the attorney (A. Khouri) has complained to me that in the past the police had been unwilling to investigate this matter — and because there exists the possibility of a petition to the Supreme Court in this regard, I would ask you to handle the file forthwith, and not to pass it back and forth between you.

"3. It should be noted that I, myself, have also been to the site with the attorney; and my impression was that there exist, at least ostensibly, signs of the working of wide areas of land in sections not alloted to the settlements."

(D) On 15 January 82, following a meeting on the subject in the office of the director of the civilian section in the state attorney's office, it was decided that the assistant legal counsel for the Judaea and Samaria area would direct the police in taking detailed statements concerning the watters under dispute with regard to possession.

Following what was clarified at the same meeting, that Shilo residents illegally blocked the Karyut villagers' access road, the settlers promised to refrain from blocking the road. It was also agreed that after the reception of the findings of the police investigation and other material to be collected, the rights of usage pertaining to the disputed plots would be determined. It should be stressed that at the meeting, the lands aspect — and not the criminal aspect — of the complaints made by the Karyut residents were discussed.

(E) Up to the time of the writing of this report (some eight months after the incident), the police investigation has not been completed. On the other hand, Attorney Khouri contacted the director of high court affairs on 11 April 82, and complained again that Shilo residents were chasing away the Karyut villagers, and that he had phoned the assistant legal counsel of the Judaea and Samaria command — who responded by saying, "there's nothing to be done."

The police give as the reason for the fact that the treatment of complaints dating back to September and November, 1981, have yet to be completed, that the issue of surveying at the site — not the police's job — is a very difficult one, and that to this day, the boundaries have yet to be determined, so that the dispute might be settled.

(E) Mahmud Awad's Wife's Complaint (Supreme Court, 12/82)

(A) On 19 January 2, the Supreme Court heard the aforementioned case, and, inter alia, ordered that the petitioner's wife's complaint of assault be handled, and that the results of the investigation be brought to the attention of the petitioners' lawyer.

At the same hearing, the attorney general's representative declared that "insofar as the matter relates to the complaint of the fifth petitioner's wife, who claims she was beaten by a police official — this complaint is being looked into, and the results of the investigation will be brought to the attention of the petitioners' lawyer; additional complaints brought in the prescribed manner, will, of course, also be treated in the accepted fashion."

(B) On 2 February 82, the director of high court affairs in the state attorney's office sent the head of the investigations branch at national headquarters a copy of the Supreme Court's 12/82 decision, and wrote the following:

"Because the incident is connected with, inter alia, shortcomings on the part of the police in handling complaints of local residents, I have seen fit to bring these matters to your attention.

"I especially wish to make you aware of what is said in section 2(c) and (d) of the Supreme Court's ruling, and the obligation ensuing therefrom — that is, that the police and army intervene on the spot only if there is the fear of a disturbance of the peace or public order, and that complaints filed with the police be duly investigated.

"We have also undertaken to pass on the results of the investigation of the complaint by the fifth petitioner's wife to the petitioner's lawyer...

"I would appreciate your issuing the appropriate orders."

(C) On 9 February 82, the chairperson of the inquiry team requested a report on the results of the investigation; and the same day, the head of the investigations branch at national headquarters requested details about the incident in a letter to the head of the Samaria investigations office.

(D) Up to writing of this report, the investigation has not been completed. The report of the police representative on the inquiry team had it that the suspects in the assault of the woman are members of the border police, and that on 24 January 82 the border police appointed an investigating officer. The police representative has not yet succeeded, up to the writing of this report, in obtaining details of the fate of the investigation, or the reason for its prolongation. It should be noted that the complaint dates back to 21 December 81; needless to say, it is difficult to expect any results from this investigation.

F. The Complaint of Nicholas Jaris (Supreme Court 149/81)

(A) In the wake of the petition of a Bayt Jala resident concerning expropriation of lands, the Supreme Court ordered that the petitioner's complaints be investigated. The petitioner complained that on 15 February 81, civilians and soldiers treated him

violently as they were fencing off his plot and he attempted to protest the action. The Supreme Court said in its ruling (of 13 May 81): "Ms Beinish [deputy state attorney] ... told us that these complaints were now being investigated, and we are acting under the assumption that the two circumstances of the complaint mentioned here will, indeed, be thoroughly checked into, despite the rejection of the petition."

(B) On 25 May 81, the director of high court affairs wrote to the government authorities and brought the court's comment to their attention.

(C) On 19 June 81, the chairperson of the inquiry team requested a report on the investigation and its results.

(D) Up to the time of the writing of this report, the investigation has yet to be completed; on the other hand, it seems that the Israel police are searching for the investigative file which has disappeared (a year and three months after the incident).

G. The Tomb of the Patriarchs Waqf Guard Case

(A) In the wake of a report — in the newspaper *"HA'ARETZ"* of 22 October 81 — on the assault of a guard in the Tomb of the Patriarchs, as well as on an excavation beneath the lower level of the tomb, the inquiry team requested a report on the investigation of the incident.

(B) The legal counsel to the Judaea and Samaria command submitted to the team (on 17 December 81) a report (from 30 November 81) compiled by Lt-Col Manoach Zehavi, commander of the Hebron District, from which arises the following:

"A. The incident of the striking of the guard:

"1. On 18 October 1981, between the hours of 16.30-16.45, the ministers of justice and communications visited and prayed in the Tomb of the Patriarchs, as part of the celebrations marking the dedication of a new Torah scroll (in the name of the justice minister's father) for the 'Avraham Avinu' (Abraham our father) Synagogue.

"2. Many Qiryat Arba' residents joined in celebrating the event.

"3. During the prayer service in the Tomb of the Patriarchs, in the Hall of Isaac, one of the Waqf guards walked past the worshippers on his way from the entrance to the Muslim prayer area. As he passed, one Qiryat Arba' resident kicked him in the leg, in full view of the Hebron police commander and other policemen.

"4. I was also at the site, and the matter was immediately brought to my attention. I immediately instructed the Waqf guard to lodge a complaint with the Israel police, and I asked the Jew who kicked him why he had done what he did; I received a rude reply.

"5. Despite my explicit instruction, the Waqf guard did not file a complaint with the police, and only a few days later, when the police investigator realized that the Arab hadn't complained, did I order the guard to come immediately to the police station and lodge a complaint, which he did.

"6. The matter is still under police investigation — incident B — from 23. October 81 (the man lodged his complaint on 23.10).

C. [as published] The incident of the excavation in the tomb:

1. On 19 October 81, at 02.40 hours, an attempted break-in to the lower level of the cave, by a group of Jewish worshippers from Qiryat Arba' was discovered. After the discovery, everything was done to conceal it and to try and repair the damage without the Waqf personnel finding out. At 06.15 hours, the affair was discovered by the same Waqf guard (incidentally, it should be noted that until that very moment, the guard had walked with a decided limp, to show how badly he'd been hurt by the Jews; but suddenly, when this episode was discovered, he began running like a frightened deer).

2. The police investigator was personally present at the site. The guard wasn't injured at the time of the discovery, neither by Qiryat Arba' residents nor by anyone lese. (There were many soldiers and officers at the site.)

3. Complaints were lodged with the Israel police by the police investigator and the tomb commander against those suspected of attempting the break-in and causing the damage, and a police investigation was opened (police file 1014/81).

3. It is typical that a journalist such as Yehuda Litani, [*HA'ARETZ*] who regularly writes tendentious anti-government reports, should deliberately cook up and combine two totally-unrelated episodes, in order to smear (the authorities).

4. It is recommended that from now on, issues of this type be looked into and solved via a single phone conversation, avoiding unnecessary and burdensome paperwork.

(C) Since it appeared from the report that the Hebron police had opened a file (which, by the way, wasn't among the incident reports which the ream received), the inquiry team requested a report from the police on what had been done in the case.

(D) Instead of a report on the October incident, the Jerusalem district attorney received, in March 1982, a file on another assault incident from July 1981, and decided to close the case for lack of evidence. In his letter of 12 March 82, the district attorney wrote:

"I decided to close the above case for lack of evidence, on the following grounds:

"1. On Saturday, 4 July 81, a number of Jews were praying in the Tomb of the Patriarchs, in a place in which Jews do not pray. According to the testimony of the IDF duty officer at the spot, this was done with the aim of preventing Waqf personnel from passing through.

"2. The complainant, Hader Abu Sneima, sought to pass through, but the worshippers prevented him from doing so; and following intervention by the duty officer, at a point at which it appeared to him (the complainant) that he would be allowed to pass — he was suddenly assaulted by one of the worshippers, a man 'with a reddish beard;' hence his complaint.

"3. Statements were taken that same day from the duty officer and another IDF soldier, while the complainant's statement was taken the following day. Statements by other eyewitnesses, principally worshippers, were taken about three weeks later — although, from a memo in the file (document D), it appears that a preliminary investigation into the identity of the suspect had already been made on 7 July 81.

"4. The reddish-bearded man, who, according to the evidence, is the one who assaulted the complainant, wasn't located by the police, and therefore I saw no alternative but to close the case.

"Nonetheless, I would like to observe that the investigation was not conducted properly, since, in my opinion, had the investigation to trace the suspect begun on the day of the incident, it would have been possible to find the suspect and to try and have the complainant identify him. I am not disregarding the fact that the complaint apparently arrived from military government circles sometime late in the evening of the same day — which in itself is not satisfactory — but in my opinion, it would still have been possible that same evening to go out and find the suspect. This was not done; and, as was said, only on 7 July 81 was any investigation begun to trace him.

"5. The undesirable result, then, is that on the one hand, the complainant was struck, and on the other, his attacker cannot be prosecuted, due to shortcomings in the investigation."

(E) Although the gravity of the shortcoming speaks for itself, it is difficult not to add the following:

(1) The authorities explicitly committed themselves before the Supreme Court to maintain law and order in Hebron and to handle complaints or occurrences entailing suspicion of a criminal offense, even where no complaint has been lodged (Cf. above, Beit Hadassah episode — Supreme Court case 175/81). The method of handling detailed above does not indicate any adherence whatsoever to the aforementioned commitment.

(2) The assault took place at a holy site, which the police are doubly obligated to protect. The circumstances of the offense, the sensitivity and method of investigation into the issue demonstrated by the police attest, if not to a deliberate omission, then certainly to a grave shortcoming.

(3) The police file is full of paradoxes. On the one hand, it says that no police line-up was held, because the complainant knew all the people who were praying and even said he could identify the complainant (sic; this obviously should be the "attacker"); but on the other hand, the complainant didn't succeed in identifying him.

(4) From the material in the file, it clearly emerges that the group of worshippers was praying at a time not set as a prayer hour, in a place where prayer is forbidden (in the passage to the entrance) — and apparently, with the deliberate intention of blocking the passage to Arab worshippers. Nonetheless, the emphasis in the police file is on the provocation by the Waqf guard, who sought to pass through precisely during the silent prayer, and consequently on the lack of public interest in forwarding the case, since the deed (kicking — ed.) was done with the aim of preventing the prayer from being interrupted, and not with the aim to assault.

It should be made emphatically clear that, from the material, it is manifest that the Waqf guard sought to go through the passageway which was deliberately being blocked by the worshippers (testimony of the duty officer in the tomb); for after the worshippers refused to let him pass, the duty officer came to his aid and asked — to no avail — that the man be permitted to go through; and when the duty officer clears the way for the guard, a worshipper struck the latter as he passed by.

(5) The Judaea investigations office head, who appeared before the inquiry team and who was asked to explain the shortcomings in the investigation, said that the incident had occurred on the Sabbath, and they hadn't wished to disturb the Jews' Sabbath rest. He added further that 'The complainant always makes trouble for the Jews when they're praying'; that this was, in sum, an assault incident, and that no special efforts are made in Israel, either, in such instances; that there had been provocation on the part of the assault victim, who had dared pass through among the worshippers during the silent prayer; that there is no public interest in the case, because it involved a Waqf guard who had provoked the worshippers; and that the investigation would not have been conducted any better in Israel. He further stated that the complainant filed his complaint only the following day. But it should be noted that on the day of the attack, military government personnel reported the incident to the police; and in the opinion of the inquiry team, the police were then obligated to embark immediately on an investigation. One wonders whether the police so conduct themselves when there is a disturbance at a holy site within Israel, and whether these are the priority considerations which govern its fulfillment of its task in this sensitive sphere (not to mention that it turns out that the assault was not an isolated incident at the holy site).

(6) The head of the Judaea investigations office told the inquiry team that there had been no cooperation on the part of the residents of Qiryat Arba', (and) that this had thwarted the investigation.

(7) The inquiry team has not yet received a report on the fate of the investigation of the attempted break-in at and damage to the Tomb of the Patriarchs. Even though, according to Lt-Col Zehavi's report, a police investigation had been initiated, the file was never mentioned in the police's ongoing reports to the inquiry team. As for the attack of 19 October 81, the material was transferred to the claims department of the Jerusalem precinct on 20 May 82, so that the suspect in the attack might be brought to trial.

H. Complaint Filed by Attorney Na'nmana

(A) On 18 December 81, Attorney Na'amana filed a complaint that his client had been struck in the course of an action carried out by soldiers or border police who had entered a club in Qalandiyah. According to the complaint, the complainant was taken to Hadassah hospital as a result of the blows, and because of the seriousness of his condition, Ramallah prison authorities initially refused to receive him.

(B) On 13 January 82, Col Baruch Hollander transferred the complaint, via the inquiry team, to the Israel police for investigation, because border police had been involved in the incident. An investigating officer was appointed, but to date — some six months after the incident — the investigation either hasn't been concluded, or its conclusion hasn't been reported to the inquiry team, despite repeated appeals.

I. The Hurling of Grenades at the Home of the Dana Family

(A) In the wake of newspaper coverage in February 1982 of the hurling of grenades at the home of the Dana family, the inquiry team attempted to ascertain whether the incident had been investigated (let it be noted that the incident was not included among the reports received by the inquiry team). According to the family, which lives on the border of Qiryat Arba', they are being harrassed with the aim of getting them to leave their house.

(B) In the course of the team's work, two more incidents in which grenages were thrown at the same house were recorded (the third on 18 March 82).

The following emerges from the report of the head of the Judaea investigations office before the inquiry team:

There are indications that the grenade was an IDF weapon, and one of the guards saw a figure wearing an IDF uniform flee from the site after the grenade was thrown. A special investigative team was set up (after the third grenade was thrown). The guard was questioned, and it is believed that he knows details, but is afraid to talk. The team worked in various directions, and investigated in the field, but they turned up nothing. The suspicions run in a certain direction, but the police are powerless because the residents of Qiryat Arba' do not cooperate, and it is impossible to question them.

J. The Wounding of Azat Izaru — Washing Machine Repairman in Hebron

(A) In the wake of yet another newspaper story (dated 2 April 82), according to which four Qiryat Arba' residents attacked a man by the name of Azat and wounded him with knives (sic), the inquiry team asked the police to submit a report. According to the account of the journalist (Yehuda Litani), superintendent of Police Kalij had told him that the motive for the attack was "adultery" and that the identity of the stabbers was known to him — and that he had even advised the suspects "to confess in court and have done with."

(B) It should be noted that the incident was not included in the ongoing police reports to the team. Mr Kalij explained to the inquiry team that the station chief had not reported the incident to him, and that the incident had taken place on the backdrop of relations between the attacked Arab and a Jewess, and that the attackers could not be identified. Mr Kalij denied the remarks attributed to him in the media report, said there was no evidence, and that the case had been closed on the grounds of "offender unknown" on 10 January 82 (not by the district attorney, as per the team's recommendation, but at the station).

(C) The team requested to see the investigation's file, and upon examining it, it is worth making the following points:

(1) The impression is that not all the possible suspects were investigated.

(2) The file contains a memo stating that, since all (?) are reconciled to the incident because of the particular background (relations between an Arab and a Jewess), there is no lead as to the identity of the attackers. An appeal was made to intelligence —but nonetheless, the case was closed for reasons of "offender unknown." It must be reiterated that the inquiry team was not informed of the case until after it had read about the matter in the press, and that the case was closed not in accordance with the inquiry team's directives.

K. The Case of the Pottery Dealer From Jericho

(A) On 16 May 81, the owner of a pottery store in Jericho complained that a Jewish resident of Beqa'ot had threatened him with a weapon.

(B) The police report of 24 November 81 did not contain results of the investigation. In accordance with the team's wish to find out what the outcome of this had been, the team was informed that the case had been closed because the complaint had been withdrawn and because the matter was a business feud. The team requested the file; and it became evident upon examining it, that the storeowner had complained after selling some pottery to customers who had placed it in the trunk of their car — in spite of his advice not to do so, for fear that it would break. The people returned a while later, complaining that the vessels were cracked, and demanded at gunpoint that their money be returned. After receiving their money, they threw the vessels at merchandise in his store, causing him damage.

(C) In the wake of this, the Jerusalem district attorney wrote (on 26 February 82):

"I have examined the evidence that has so far been collected in this file, and have come to the conclusion that there is prima facie evidence of the commission of offenses of extortion by threat (under article 428 of the penal code), causing deliberate damage to property (article 452 of the penal code), and subornation of an investigation (article 245 of the code).

"The complainant claimed that (name deleted) threatened him at gunpoint to return money (that he had paid for the plants). He also claimed that the suspect threw the plants, causing deliberate damage to other ceramic ware in the store.

"He also contended that afterwards, the complainant (sic; obviously, suspect is meant) told him 'if you notify the police, I'll come back and kill you.'

"The complainant stated that the incident was witnessed by a man named Abu Hassan; no statement was taken from Abu Hassan.

"There might be additional witnesses to the incident.

"The testimony of the suspect and his two friends does not seem

credible to me, since the gun-related incident is not mentioned at all by the two friends.

"I am sending this together with the material, and request that the investigation be completed properly: the suspects should be summoned, with a warning, for additional questioning; investigative steps in accordance with the investigations branch regulations should be undertaken; and upon completion of the investigation, the file should be returned to me for a decision."

(4) The head of the Judaea investigations office was asked to offer an explanation for what had occurred. According to his statements before the inquiry team, the police did not deal with the extortion aspect because the parties involved took care of the matter by themselves; and if a complaint is retracted, even if it involves a criminal offense, the public has no interest in continuing procedures. He added that the complaint about threatening at gunpoint should be disregarded, because the Arabs exaggerate, and a Jew has only to carry a gun for them to claim they have been threatened. On this we must comment:

(1) There is no trace in the file of a cancellation of the complaint. On the contrary, according to the complainant's testimony, he was threatened with murder if he filed a complaint.

(2) At issue here is a threat at gunpoint, receiving something as the result of a threat, and the felony of suborning an investigation. According to the complainant's testimony, the weapon was pointed at him. One of those interrogated claimed that the weapon accidentally fell; in any case, there is certainly more at issue here than merely carrying arms.

(3) It is difficult to assume that in Israel this type of case would be closed on account of lack of public interest.

(E) At the time of the writing of this report, the investigation has not been completed (complaint filed 16 May 81).

L. Damage to Buses in Ramallah

On 10 April 81, the Ramallah police station received a complaint about damaged buses. A suspicion existed that reserve soldiers, yeshiva students from Qiryat Arba', caused the damage. On 7 May 81, the station recommended closing the case, on the grounds of "offender unknown." On 14 May 81, the Judaea investigations office director sent a letter to the commander in Ramallah, in which he severely criticized the investigation — noting that, in fact, no investigation had taken place, but that the police had sufficed with a request to the CID and had not made the slightest effort to clarify the details in its possession. Despite the severe criticism, the file reveals no further effort to complete the investigation; and on 25 April 82, about one year after the incident, the case was closed on the grounds of "offender unknown."

M. Investigation of Cases of Unnatural Deaths

(1) The team had special difficulty following up police investigations of cases of gunshot wounds in which Israelis — not soldiers — had been involved, especially given the recent increase of such incidents. Police reporting in this sphere has been exceptionally slow. On injuries alone (not involving a complaint), there was no reporting and no investigating at all; and the police's position is (according to the head of the Judaea investigations office and the police representative) that the police are incapable of following up these incidents. The team's inquiry, in any case, was basically deficient, because updated details of reports were received by the team after a great delay. The inquiry team received reports on two investigations into deaths — the case of the killing of the boy from Sinjil (15 March 82), and the case of the killing of a boy in Bani Na'im (24 March 82). According to (sic; this should be "as a result of") media information, the commission requested details on the death of a 14-year-old girl from the village of Al-'Arrub, near Hebron — a case which was not included in the police reporting.

The inquiry team's impression of the three aforementioned cases was that the appropriate energy and required effieiency for investigations of this kind were not evident — and doubts arose as to the actual method of investigation. In the Bani Na'im case, investigation of the suspect did not commence until six days after the incident — while in the interim, a delegation of Israeli local residents had presented themselves to the police and explicitly declared that the residents would not cooperate with the police, and would behave only as per instructions from the military government and the minister (?) (the shooting suspect was apparently among the delegates). An arrest warrant that had been drawn up regarding one of the suspects was never served; and it is suspected that the police officers did not properly discharge their duties. (According to the report of the head of the Judaea investigations office to the team, police officers had planned to serve the arrest warrant after midnight, and they reported that the suspect had not been at home — although the suspect claimed to have been at home.) The case was investigated in such a manner that the (district) attorney had to return the file for completion of the investigation.

Regarding the murder of the youth in the village of Al-'Arrub (an incident from the end of April 1982) — the team has still not received details of the investigation; it appears, on the face of it, that there was an inconsistency of reporting between the various elements within the police — and the suspicion arises that the police did not efficiently follow through the investigation's leads that could lead to the identity of the person who fired the weapon.

Part Three

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[Report by Deputy Attorney General Yehudit Karp, addressed to Attorney General Prof Yitzhaq Zamir, entitled "Investigation of Suspicions Against Israelis in Judaea and Samaria — Report of the Inquiry Team," Part Three — dated 25 May 1982]

[Text] Concluding Section of the Karp Report

The above findings deal with 15 incidents which were investigated. They are only a portion of the entire group of 70 cases on which the team received reports. The inquiry team, as stated earlier, did not examine the entire group of cases to the full, and it therefore cannot determine with finality that the above find-

ings characterize all investigations in the area under examination. However, a study of the details of these (15), and the fact (noted above) that of the 70 cases, 53 were closed without results, requires thought, if not concern. In any case, consideration should be given to whether the state attorney's office can indeed make a commitment in future before the court about conducting serious and effective investigations.

An analysis of the above requires that the following points be considered:

A. (1) The complaints submitted to the police centered mainly on the following: assault, damage to property, threats, armed threats, shootings, trespassing and closing off rights of way to fields and businesses in towns (among the complaints were also attacks on schoolgirls and an incursion into a private clinic for purposes of prayer).

A common denominator may be discerned here, which is that the backdrop to their occurrence is not the usual criminal delinquency; and save for instances of shooting for self-defense, they may be characterized as springing from the desire to demonstrate "rights" on the ground. In any case, they bear a sort of witness to an ugly atmosphere in the relations of Israeli residents of Judaea and Samaria to the local populace. These things focus mainly on Hebron and the Shilo area.

(2) In case 214/81 in Jerusalem District Court, two Israelis were convicted on 2.9.81 of attacking a Hebron Arab, trespassing, and deliberately damaging property, following the latter's refusal to allow them to enter real estate which the accused claimed was Jewish property.

In his verdict, Judge Goldberg noted the following:

"In the instance before us, the accused at first only asked to enter an abandoned storey so as to demonstrate their presence in a nonviolent manner; but when they encountered a refusal, they did not give up, but rather used force against the person who stood in their way. The accused's attachment to Jewish property cannot serve as justification for an act of hooliganism; and not by assaulting an elderly man and overturning crates of fruit at his stand will the accused bring about realization of rights to Jewish property. The court cannot treat these actions indulgently...even if these are youths who have no past record."

(3) We will not have done our duty if, in describing the nature of these actions, we do not deal with the events which transpired during the curfew in Hebron in May 1980, following the murder of the settlers. True, these are incidents which occurred in the wake of a trauma — and for this reason, we have no intention of presenting them as being usual, certainly not in their cumulative scope; but they are mentioned here as representing incapacity both to prevent acts of hooliganism towards the Arab inhabitants and to investigate complaints in this sphere.

This is said particularly in view of the fact that the actions took place during a curfew. After the curfew, which lasted several days, local inhabitants complained to the Hebron police about thefts, looting, damage to property, assaults, stone-throwing, and deliberate arson which occurred during the curfew. A report from 22.8.80 by Uri Shoham, military advocate (Jerusalem, Judaea and Samaria district military police file 240/80), lists 13 complaints of this type.

In view of the fact that the incident took place prior to the inquiry team's work, we will not go into detail on the grave episode which emerges from an analysis of these incidents, but it should be noted that the report spells out in detail that soldiers — eyewitnesses — stated during the investigation that they had seen with their own eyes how civilians from Qiryat Arba' were the ones who had vandalized Arab property during the curfew. The following are some of the eyewitness citations included in the report:

"Qiryat Arba'ns roamed about Hebron, damaging Arab property in revenge."

"The main job of Brigade 202 was to chase Qiryat Arba' residents and prevent these incidents."

"I know that Jewish residents of Qiryat Arba' are the ones who smashed windshields. I saw this with my own eyes."

"I saw Qiryat Arba' residents smashing windshields and throwing stones. The friction was more between the IDF and Jews from Qiryat Arba' than between the IDF and the Arabs. The Qiryat Arba'ns carried their weapons and were dressed in civvies."

"I saw Qiryat Arba'ns throwing stones and smashing store windows and windshields."

The report found that "there is no doubt that damage was caused to homes and cars of local residents in Hebron, when, among other reasons for this, one should see activity that despite the curfew, civilians from Qiryat Arba' went about the twon, some of them carrying weapons and wearing uniforms. In a few cases, these residents were seen throwing stones and causing various damage to property."

Likewise, it was found that soldiers who witnessed vandalism by a Qiryat Arba' couple did not stop them, did not arrest them for their actions, and did not take their names. Epilogue: According to the report on 25.11.80 by Chief Inspector Steinmitz, all the files the police had opened in their investigation of the event were closed, on the grounds of offender unknown.

(4) From the start, the nature of the acts, the subject of the complaints, and their background constitute, per se, a factor working against effective investigation. The fact that the suspects in the case aren't criminals in the usual police sense also doesn't help promote special efforts in the investigation, even without taking into account the overt delaying factors which will be detailed below.

B. (1) As a general finding, we can say that police activity to maintain public order and (ensure) the inhabitants' welfare in Judaea and Samaria (at least in the sphere of Jewish-Arab relations) focuses on investigating in the wake of complaints. Incidents of lawbreaking when no complaints were lodged are not investigated. This holds true mainly regarding injuries resulting

from shooting, but it is also true of simple criminal offenses. The inquiry team, in any case, did not receive reports on police discoveries.

This is clear from the episodes discussed earlier, principally those instances in which an investigation was begun as the result of a Supreme Court request or at the instigation of the inquiry team. One may therefore say that the police have not been honoring — as they might have been expected to do — the commitment given the Supreme Court regarding awareness of what goes on in sensitive areas, so as to prevent illegal actions insofar as possible.

(2) The Judean investigations office head presented his position to the inquiry team, whereby the police haven't the power to initiate investigations into incidents about which no complaint has been lodged.

C.(1) The material submitted to the inquiry team clearly indicates that local residents refrain from complaining (Bet Hadassah, the Hebron school principal — aftermath to the Bet Hadassah affair, the assault on the guard at the Patriarchs' [Makhpelah] Cave, et al.), and although the team hasn't any way to keep close tabs on events in the area via means other than police reports, one may conclude with a large measure of confidence that criminal occurrences take place in the area, (occurrences) which are not investigated, and whose scope isn't known to the inquiry team. In this context, the astonishing fact should be noted that in the Samaria District, the police reported on just two complaints in the space of half a year.

(2) The potential reasons for this absence of complaints may range from fatalism and a natural tendency not to complain, to a lack of desire to come in contact with the authorities, to fear resulting from a threat or fear of an act of revenge, to drawing conclusions from a lack of results in previous complaints to the police or from police refusal to handle complaints.

While failure to report offenses is not typical only of Judaea and Samaria — and even in Israel, the number of complaints is far from reflecting all the offenses committed — the material presented to the team still gives substance to the fear that the pretext of alienation from the authorities (cf. the Arab proverb: "If the judge is your enemy, to whom can you complain?"), and fear of complaining due to the abovementioned fear of revenge, do indeed constitute a reason for failure to report. Another possible reason for failure to report, in cases of gunshot wounds, is involvement by the wounded in incidents of stone-throwing or riots.

But besides all this, there is undoubtedly a direct correlation between the large number of investigations which end with case closed — and the large number of cases whose handling stretches over a long period — and the waiver of the right to complain. The real situation points to a vicious circle in which occurrences aren't investigated for lack of complaint, while complaints aren't submitted because of a lack of proper investigation. The rule of law and public order surely do not come out the winners in this matter.

At the start of the inquiry team's work, an attempt was made, both in the police and in the Judaea and Samaria command, to set up an ongoing media watch for the purpose of instigating investigations in cases where no complaint was made. But the team failed in its efforts to get those concerned to maintain this watch. The team's watch on media reports was, as said, sporadic. At the start of its work, the inquiry team also considered possible taking action to encourage residents to complain, but felt that this would not be effective so long as there had been no investigation into the method of handling those complaints which were submitted. From the inquiry team's experience, it may be deduced that no thorough and reliable investigation into the issue is possible without a constant and ongoing watch on the media (mainly the Arabic language papers).

D. The problem of cooperation between the police and the military police requires reorganization. The question comes up both when the police need military police aid in investigations in which there is a suspicion that soldiers were involved in the offense, as well as in the matter of the splitting of cases in military police investigations which require the military police to get help from the police to interrogate local witnesses. The material before the commission points to malfunctions, and thought should be devoted to this at the highest levels.

E. (1) The inquiry team didn't have the means for drawing comparisons, but its initial impression is that the number of cases in this sphere whose handling ended in closure of the case — on the grounds of offender unknown — exceeds the number acceptable in other spheres.

(2) Of course, one must not overlook objective difficulties which exist in identifying suspects in occurrences of a certian type. Occurrences such as damage done at night, and gunfire from fleeing cars are, by their nature, difficult to solve. An additional difficulty occurs in incidents involving injury resulting from gunfire, since, as previously stated, the injured themselves face trial for involvement and therefore don't testify. These are objective difficulties that must be taken into account.

(3) Another difficulty in connection with this, as previously mentioned, is that in CID investigations, the local residents are interrogated by the police, and material is passed onto it long after the incident, so that it's doubtful whether the investigation of the incident can be useful. The result is that witnesses from among the local population are not interrogated, and without such witnesses, it is necessary to begin from the assumption that there was a roadblock, stones were thrown, there was a need to fire, the shots were actually fired in the air, and so it is difficult to reach any conclusions regarding identifying who fired. The difficulties increase in events ending in the death of an individual. Then, the question is asked whether in light of the loss of human life, there is reason to grant immunity to stone throwers or participants in riots, so that they will testify.

In the case of the death in Bani ha'im, the police decided not to grant immunity to the participants in the riots. Already at that stage, it was possible to say that the investigation was, therefore, one-sided; and this has implications for the results.

4) Another phenomenon, relating to the non-identification of suspects, is that the complainants retract their statements that they can identify a suspect (such was the case in the Tomb of the

Patriarchs [Makhpelah cave] incident, and the same for the uprooting of the vines in Kedumim). It is not for the team to establish the reason for this phenomenon, but the fear of the complainants should not be ruled out (fear of the threat in the case of the Jericho merchant). The inquiry team was not convinced that in the cases where complainants reneged on their willingness to identify a suspect, the police made real efforts to encourage the complainants to cooperate with them.

(5) At the same time we can, without misrepresenting reality, point to a direct connection between the plethora of cases closed due to "offender unknown," and failed investigations, either because the proper speed was not displayed when the event took place, or the investigation occurred a long time after the event, or because no proper efforts were made to locate persons (and it is fitting to recall in this connection that during the Hebron curfew incidents, as mentioned earlier, all the cases of complaints of property damage, arson, assault, and others — numbering at least 13 — were closed on the grounds that the offender was unknown).

(6) Due to constraints, the committee did not check every file that had been closed on grounds of offender unknown, but the few that were checked give cause for concern. (Thus with the hadassah file, the file on the assault in the Tomb of the Patriarchs, the file on the washing machines installation; the damaged buses case stands out in particular, in which, as explained above, no action was taken to locate the offenders.)

Additional sample files, from the commission's random checks:

In file criminal/civil 280/81 Ramallah station (wounding after stone-throwing and erection of barricade) the Jerusalem district attorney noted: "The file docs not contain testimony of eyewitnesses from among the local residents. In my opinion, no effort worthy of the name was made on the day the complaint was filed — which was the day the incident occurred — or on the days immediately following, to locate eyewitnesses."

In file criminal/civil 169/82, on the investigation of a complaint by a taxi driver from Silwad, who was travelling near 'Ofra and complained that a rock thrown from the settlement hit his car, the Jerusalem district attorney wrote on 16.5.82:

"No testimony was taken apart from that of the driver, and there is no material in the file that can attribute any guilt. The file was closed on grounds of offender unknown, and the matter is not within my purview. The file notes (in the investigations log) that efforts were made to locate suspects, but there is no documentation for this claim in the file."

It appears that matters speak for themselves. The multiplicity of cases in which files were closed on grounds of offender unknown demands attention.

F. (1) The team formed the impression that the police investigations in the sphere of our interest were carried out in an ambivalent manner, as is evident from the results of the investigations.

This ambivalence stems not only from the natural complexity of the situation, and not only from the fact that the suspects in the abovementioned complaint files are not perceived by the police as offenders in the usual sense; it appears that the situation stems also, and mainly, from external interference on the part of military government personnel, in giving orders concerning the actual opening of investigations and related matters, such as release from detention.

(2) This was explained very bluntly to the inquiry team by the head of the investigations department in Judaea, superintendent Kalij, who provided examples. Similarly, he also explicitly stated in his report (of 1.6.81) on the Bet Hadassah case.

"The military governor of Hebron instructed the Hebron station chief not to handle the matter, as he would see to it that the military government repaired the damage. ...in the first case, the complaint of damage in the matter of the ceiling was not investigated properly, as the previous military governor had given instructions not to handle the case.

In his appearance before the inquiry team, Superintendant Kalij added that pressure was being brought to bear by the military government for the release of persons detained for questioning, pressures that led in a number of cases to their release. He said that when such pressures are applied directly, station chiefs are unable to withstand them, as they hesitate to enter into a confrontation with the governor and to act contrary to his directives. The result is release from arrest on irrelevant grounds and for reasons totally unrelated to the investigation.

(3) Apart from the constitutional question raised by the intervention of military government personnel in police investigatory work, such intervention has the direct consequence of making investigations still more difficult, or of even further reducing the ability to investigate. Intervention by military government personnel in investigations is naturally interpreted as backing for suspects. Mr Kalij conveyed to the inquiry team his impression that at some senior security echelon whose identity he does not know, Israeli residents of the territories are given to understand that they are soldiers to all intents and purposes, and are subject to army investigations. Israeli residents of Judaea and Samaria, explicitly relying on this assurance, refuse to cooperate with the police or to provide information; they reject any contact with the police, basing themselves on "high-level policy," and declaring that they are under no obligation to cooperate in this matter.

(4) On 23.3.82, the brigade commander of the Judaea and Samaria district issued a telegram, No. 3128-23-MB, which was sent also to the heads of the investigations bureaus in the Judaea and Samaria district, stating inter alia, that "any case of shooting by Jewish residents in the Judaea and Samaria district resulting in local victims will be handled by the CID and not by the Israel police." A correction was sent out immediately afterwards, whose purpose was not clarified, stating that "any case in which residents of the Judaea and Samaria district open fire resulting in local victims will be handled via the military government."

When the attorney general learned about the telegram, he expressed his opposition to the decision at the Cabinet meeting on 28.3.82. Following clarifications, the military advocate-general informed him that the brigade commander of the Judaea and Samaria district had revoked the telegram. The problem is

that in the 2.4.82 meeting of the inquiry team, when the team was presented with a copy of the cancellation of the telegram, the head of the investigations bureau of Judaea reported that he had received no notification of the telegram's revocation, and that his staff still considered themselves bound by it. Such was the case at least until 15.4.82, when the attorney general sent a letter to the police inspector-general asking him to inform police officers in Judaea and Samaria that the telegram had been revoked.

G. (1) The abovementioned telegram was not addressed to the residents of Qiryat Arba', but one may assume that they were informed of it. The matter was openly discussed in a flyer distributed on 24 March 82 in the name of the Qiryat Arba' local council, calling on residents "not to cooperate with the police and not to respond to any question whatsoever. Similarly...at this stage one should not respond even to questions from military investigators, as long as we are not assured that the material will not be passed on to the police and the Jerusalem District Attorney's office." Whether or not the revocation of the telegram came to the attention of Qiryat Arba' residents, they continue to brazenly boycott the police, both as suspects or as witnesses who could assist investigations.

(2) One can understand that the residents of Judaea and Samaria are genuinely worried by the very idea that they could be called upon to account for activities done in their own self-defense — creating a feeling of insecurity in addition to the objective danger in traveling along the (District's) roads. But in openly challenging the police (and publicly reviling the chief of the Judaea Investigations Bureau and the State Attorney's Office), they do not restrict themselves to cases of opening fire. Rather, the refusal to maintain contact with the police applies to every offense, even if it is totally unrelated to a shooting incident. In effect, this means an inability (and unwilling-ness) to investigate any complaint against residents of Qiryat Arba'. Mr Kalij told the team that he personally did not want to conduct investigations in Qiryat Arba', while his policemen acted infirmly. The results of the investigations, as detailed above, are the direct outcome of this lack of cooperation.

(3) An even graver picture emerges on this topic in the investigation of fatal incidents in the villages of Sinjil and Vani Na'im. In both cases, when the murder suspects were summoned to appear before the police they announced that they would not come, and that they dealt only with the Military Government. The police did nothing to bring the suspects to the police station, despite the grave suspicion, and the arrest order issued against the suspect in the Bani Na'im murder was not implemented, under circumstances that demand clarification. In the case of Bani Na'im, a delegation including the head of the Qiryat Arba' council and a representative of the Gush 'Ezyon council turned up three days later and, according to Superintendent Kalij, told the police, citing Military Government authorities, that there would be no cooperation, and that the police and the Jerusalem District Attorney were hostile. They said they would not convey their version of the incident unless they received instructions from the political echelon. It should be noted that one of the suspects was a member of the delegation, and that he was not questioned on that occasion. As a result, the suspects were not located, and not until six days after the incident were the police able to gather evidence (and this on a case of manslaughter, or suspicion of murder, when the suspects were well known). This, of course, had direct implications for the investigation itself. It is hard to believe that this is how a case involving a death would be investigated in Israel.

(4) The inquiry team believes that urgent consideration should be given to the phenomenon of residents refusing to cooperate with the police and the State Attorney on grounds that they are hostile elements, and the matter brought for discussion before the relevant political echelons. A situation in which, in the name of self-defense was involved or (perhaps) the unlawful taking of power into one's own hands, is intolerable and invites anarchy. The authority of the police to investigate any offense whatsoever, and especially cases involving deaths, is one of the foundations of law and order, and it must not be undermined in any way. Self-defense, as such, must not serve as grounds for immunity before the law.

The unique, problematic nature of the situation, and the sensitive question of the security of the residents of Judaea and Samaria, must be solved in ways other than by casting off frameworks and taking the law into one's own hands. Stone-throwing and the blocking of roads must be dealt with, and procedures should be instituted to guide and obligate civilians — including Israeli citizens residing in Judaea and Samaria — encountering such roadblocks. The procedures for the bearing of IDF arms by civilians must be reevaluated, along with the instructions they receive about opening fire. A clear line must be drawn between the army and civilian settlers concerning responsibility for security in the district. It would be desirable to make it obligatory to report any firing of IDF weapons, even if no one is hurt, and to clarify and impress upon all concerned the difference between a situation of self-defense, and a different situation which constitutes the unlawful assumption of powers of guarding. The reaction of the Qiryat Arba' and Hebron region residents and their demand that the investigation be carried out by the Military Government authorities is tantamount to civil rebellion and a casting of aspersions on the civilian echelons of the Israeli police, the State Attorney and the courts of the State of Israel.

The collective conclusion of all this is, that the inquiry team's findings point to definite deficiencies in police performance in investigating events growing out of neighborly relations between Israelis and local residents in Judaea and Samaria, and complaints of local residents against Israelis.

After a draft of this report was distributed to the police, a letter was received from the head of the investigations and claims department at national police headquarters, and it is attached as an addendum to this report. Although the steps the police say they will take in the letter are worthy of praise, there is no doubt that this is only the first step. It seems that the stated deficiencies, which require the most basic treatment on their own merit, are but a symptom of a much deeper problem, containing the beginnings of a dangerous process whose end is difficult to foresee. Since this is the case, it wouldn't be right to focus attention on the police alone, or on the CID and its activities. It is imperative that the realities, and their serious ramifications, be discussed in political circles without delay, in order to find an urgent solution to this situation, and to establish an approved government policy to be instituted by all government authorities, to prevent the

deterioration of the situation, and any harm to the foundation of the rule of law.

(1) In light of the report's conclusions, and in light of the inquiry team's experience, serious doubts arise whether the inquiry team can act in a reasonable manner or bring about a real change in the situation; and therein lie the doubts concerning its continued activities.

(2) The difficulties and pressures burdening the inquiry team's work are mainly the following:

(A) Owing to the burden of their work, members of the inquiry team were unable to devote the necessary time to fundamental work which could be fruitful. The inquiry team did hold numerous meetings, but they were not enough to fundamentally check all the investigative files, and to establish and initiated follow-up of events in the field. A feeling of lack of thoroughness in its work accompanied the inquiry team throughout.

(B) The inquiry team was established fundamentally as a coordinating team, but during the year in which it worked, it succeeded only in fulfulling the monitoring stage for the purpose of gathering the material, which (phase) is the basic condition for a discussion of questions of coordination. The subjects for coordination, however, must be determined at the political echelon, and the composition of the inquiry team is not fitting for this purpose.

(c) As was expected previously, the inquiry team operated with the feeling that the material it was receiving was only partial, and that it had failed to establish an ongoing follow-up of events to compare with the ongoing reports it received. A side effect of this was that the inquiry team failed even in its aim of bringing about initiated investigations of incidents even in the absence of complaints.

(d) The reports that reached the inquiry team were not always exact or full. In any event, the pace of reporting to the inquiry team was too slow to permit any real check of developments. The slow reporting process (attributed to communications problems) deprived the inquiry team of the feeling that it had its hand on the pulse. (When the inquiry team requested a report on the incident involving the death of the girl from the village of Al-'Arrub, it wasn't received until ten days later. A week was the minimal response time for receiving additional explanations of (matters treated in) ongoing reporting.)

(E) Another obstacle the inquiry team faced was the inherent difficulty in following up an active investigation and in getting down to its finer details. Moreover, the supervision of a body enjoying operative authority is not the same as the supervision of a body lacking operative power. The inquiry team did not interfere, therefore, with the investigative process itself, except where it saw fit to return a file for completion of the investigation or a reevaluation of conclusions.

(F) The inquiry team's attempt to follow the quality of investigations via district attorneys was unsuccessful, except for the help of the Jerusalem district attorney, who is a member of the inquiry team.

(G) The inquiry team's hope that the inquiry itself and the requirement to report would in themselves bring about an improvement in the work habits of the investigating bodies proved to be a false one, and raised doubts about the operation's effectiveness. The police representative on the inquiry team tried to the best of her ability to guide the investigative offices and to make them aware of the importance of quick and useful treatment, but signs of improvement have yet to become evident.

(H) After reaching an understanding of the situation, the feeling increased among the members of the inquiry team that the fundamental treatment of the phenomena was beyond its powers and authorization, and that it was impossible to tackle the phenomenon except by means of a fundamental formulation of positions regarding its underlying causes — and the inquiry team was not the represenative body for this matter.

(3) The representatives of the police and the Judaea and Samaria command on the inquiry team have expressed their opinion that the very existence of the team serves as an impetus for the police and CID to investigate vigorously and efficiently, and that it is desirable that there be a body that will vet the information in this area and initiate investigation when necessary. This report does not support the claim, however, that the team can bring about the necessary, basic changes regarding this issue; and on the other hand, there is the danger that the existence of the team might serve as a cover for phenomena to which the team objects — and perhaps even as a calming element influencing the recognition of the need to tackle the problem in its full and proper scope. The key lies not in the technical monitoring of investigations, nor in criteria for investigative techniques, nor in the legal angle — but rather in a radical reform of the basic oncept of the rule of law in its broadest and most profound sense.

[Signed] Judith Karp, deputy attorney general

Addendum to Karp Report: Crimes Against Jews
TA091606 Jerusalem GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE in English 7 Feb 84

[Justice Ministry document: "List of Unsolved Attakcs Against Jews 1978-1983," date not given]

[Text] A. In Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza District

March 7, 1979 — one wounded in explosion at Allenby Bridge.

May 5, 1980 — one soldier wounded in grenade attack on command car near Ad-Duhayshah refugee camp.

May 26,1981 — one killed, one wounded in grenade attack on car in Gaza.

July 14, 1981 — one killed (Rafah military governor), three wounded in explosion in Rafah.

May 1, 1982 — one wounded in Molotov cocktail attack near Solomon's Pools, Bethlehem.

July 17, 1982 — one killed in Bethlehem market.

November 22, 1982 — one wounded in knife attack of settler in Nabulus.

February 14, 1983 — one killed in Gaza market shooting.

February 17, 1983 — one wounded in shooting at Israeli vehicle on the trans-Samaria road.

April 3, 1983 — two wounded in grenade attack in Nabulus.

May 10, 1983 — one killed in Gaza market.

August 1, 1983 — two wounded in shooting at army truck, bus near 'Anabta.

September 12, 1983 — one wounded in grenade attack in Gaza market.

September 25, 1983 — two wounded in grenade attack on Nabulus municipality.

November 28, 1983 — one wounded in beating of settler in Nabulus Market.

November 30, 1983 — one killed (body of Netanya resident discovered near Tulkarm).

Total: 6 killed, 17 wounded

B. In the State of Israel

June 2, 1978 — six killed, twenty wounded in bus explosion in Bayit Vegan, Jerusalem.

September 5, 1978 — two killed in bomb explosion in Baq'a, Jerusalem.

September 16, 1978 — seven wounded in David Street bomb explosion, Jerusalem.

November 25, 1978 — one wounded in explosion at hitch-hiking stand on Hebron Road, Jerusalem.

April 5, 1979 — three wounded in explosion on Saladin Street, Jerusalem.

April 6, 1979 — twelve injured in explosion at Dolphin restaurant, Jerusalem.

April 29, 1979 — three wounded in Kefar Sava explosion.

May 28, 1979 — one wounded in explosion at Bat Galim beach, Haifa.

June 3, 1979 — one wounded in Jerusalem book store explosion.

July 19, 1979 — one wounded in explosion of two devices on Jaffa Road, Jerusalem.

July 25, 1979 — eleven wounded in Bet Lid junction explosion.

August 15, 1979 — four wounded in Bet Lik explosion.

August 21, 1979 — two wounded in explosion of two devices at Tel Aviv amusement park.

August 29, 1979 — one wounded in explosion in Abu-Tor, Jerusalem.

September 7, 1979 — three wounded in explosion of device between two gas balloons in Yesud Hama'ala St., Tel Aviv.

September 14, 1979 — two wounded in Bat Yam explosion.

September 19, 1979 — two killed, 41 wounded in explosion on Ben-Yehuda St., Jerusalem.

September 27, 1979 — Nine wounded in explosion of two devices on Allenby St., Tel Aviv.

October 26, 1979 — one wounded in explosion at Tel Aviv central bus station, on 26 bus.

November 1, 1979 — one killed in explosion of IDF grenade in stairwell at Tel Aviv central bus station.

November 12, 1979 — one wounded in Dimona explosion.

November 19, 1979 — two wounded in explosion on 5 bus at Zion Square, Jerusalem.

November 19, 1979 — Two wounded in explosion on 18 bus in Qiryat Hayovel, Jerusalem.

December 3, 1979 — one wounded in Ashqelon explosion.

February 3, 1980 — six wounded in explosion opposite Rehovot police station.

August 19, 1980 — one wounded in grenade explosion at Egged bus station, Qiryat Gat.

September 23, 1980 — one wounded in explosion at last stop of 54 bus, Ramat Gan.

December 4, 1980 — eleven wounded in explosion on King George St., Jerusalem.

February 23, 1981 — one wounded in Jaffa explosion.

March 9, 1981 — a Jerusalem bus driver was stabbed (one wounded).

March 29, 1981 — four wounded in explosion in bus at Tel Aviv central bus station.

May 7, 1981 — one wounded in Dimona explosion.

August 24, 1981 — one wounded in Ra'anana explosion.

May 26, 1982 — two wounded in grenade explosion on Moshav 'Omer.

October 8, 1982 — four wounded in Herzliyya explosion.

June 28, 1983 — two wounded in explosion in Hapalmach St. supermarket, Jerusalem.

December 6, 1983 — six killed, forty-four wounded in explosion on 18 bus, Jerusalem.

Total: 17 killed, 210 wounded.

Addendum: Letter to Police on Karp Report
TA091158 Jerusalem GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE in English 7 Feb 84

[Letter to Israeli Police commissioner from Israeli Police National Headquarters Investigations Divisions: "Status and Functioning of the Police in the Administered Territories," dated 7 February 1984]

[Text] 1) Status of the Police in the Areas Under the (Jurisdiction of the) Military Government

A. As is known, the military governors bear overall responsibility for guaranteeing public order in the areas under the (jurisdiction of the) Military Government, and for enforcing the laws applicable to those areas.

B. The military governors carry out their duty of guaranteeing the public order with the aid of military and border police units which have been placed at their disposal for this purpose, and which act under their direct command.

C. The investigation of criminal offenses committed in the areas under the (jurisdiction of the) Military Government is conducted by police units that were set up in the (administered) territories and are staffed by local police officers under Israeli command. The police units are under the command of the military governors, and receive professional direction from the Israel police.

D. Funds for the police and border police units in the areas under the (jurisdiction of the) military government are allocated from the budget of the Ministry of Defense. The location of police stations, the number of policemen, and their complement was determined in 1968 in accordance with the conditions and needs of that time.

E. Since that time, fundamental changes have taken place in the administered territories, and are manifested mainly in the following:

1) A significant rise in criminal and security offenses among the Arab population;

2) Stepped-up settling of Israelis in small, widely-scattered settlements. The investigation of every kind of security and criminal offenses committed by Israelis is conducted exclusively by Israeli staffs. In spite of the mounting burden, which has burgeoned beyond recognition, and which falls primarily on the limited Israeli staff, there have been no changes in the deployment and staffing of the police units. The police's request that its ranks be reinforced and adapted to the immediate needs has not been complied with, nor have funds yet been allocated by the Defense Ministry.

2) Special Problems

A. The legal situation in the Military Government area is complex and vague. A variety of conflicting legal systems are in parallel use: Local courts, ruling in accordance with Jordanian law, try Arab residents; military courts, ruling in accordance with military jurisprudence and Military Government orders, try security offenses carried out by local residents; courts martial try IDF soldiers; and Israeli law is applied by courts within Israel to try Israelis who committed crimes in the area.

B. In the investigation of incidents involving soldiers, two different systems of investigation are in parallel operation: A CID unit questions military personnel only; the police unit is then asked to question the citizens lodging the complaint.

C. In many cases, Arab residents refuse to file complaints with the police about attacks by Israelis, for fear of implicating themselves criminally for their own actions which had led to the violent reaction (the throwing of stones or Molotov cocktails, the barricading of roads, etc).

D. The police do not enjoy the cooperation of sizable segments of the population, Jews and Arabs both. In the absence of a willingness to communicate relevant information to the police, or to testify as to what they know, it is impossible to obtain the necessary evidence on which to confirm suspicions and obtain convictions. In certain cases, there have been deliberate attempts to thwart and obstruct investigations.

E. Land disputes are the source of a considerable number of incidents between Israelis and Arabs. The investigation of these (incidents) is a particularly difficult task, owing to the deficient Jordanian method of registering land, (and) the corrupt practices and duplicity of the mukhtars, the intermediaries, and the landowners.

F. Investigative work worthy of the name cannot be carried out without an intelligence infrastructure. The intelligence alignment operating in the administered territories is the general security services, put they, by their very nature, focus exclusively on security matters.

3. Comments on the Inquiry Team Report

A. The Attorney general set up the inquiry team on 29.4.81, recognizing that in investigations related to offenses committed by Jews against Arabs, there is a lack of clarity with respect to which body is empowered to conduct the investigation, investigative procedures, and the conclusions following from the investigation. The team was charged with coordinating among all the relevant bodies, and with drawing up proposed procedures and instructions for conducting investigations and taking legal steps.

B. The team report makes reference to a number of particularly difficult and complicated investigations, in which the desired results were not achieved — viz., the disclosure of the identify of

the offenders, or the gathering of sufficient evidence to bring them to trial; while there is no arguing the findings regarding the results of the investigations in the specific incidents mentioned above, it is something of a distortion to present these findings as a representational sample of all the investigative work done at the police stations. There is no mention of the prodigious activity, the substantial efforts that were invested, or all the investigations that did yield positive results and resulted in the trial and punishment of the offenders.

C. Though the team enumerated some of the legal problems and objective difficulties in investigating complaints against Israelis, no attempt was made to explore and propose ways and means to overcome or minimize them, as is needed.

D. The report is wanting in that it examines the investigations according to accepted criteria within the Green Line, without really addressing the significance and implications of activity admist a hostile and disaffected Arab population, and the handling of incidents that are ostensibly criminal, but are heavily charged with nationalist and sectorial feelings — and all this with insufficient tools and resources.

Conclusion

A. The aim of this memorandum is to present things as they really are, within the proper context, and in their proper proportions.

B. The team report contains no operational proposals for the main issues the attorney general asked it to examine.

C. The major contribution of the report is that several important issues were clarified in its wake:

1) The legal and organizational status of the police units in the areas under the (jurisdiction of the) Military Government — those under the command of the military governors, and which help them carry out their responsibilities and law enforcement duties.

2) These police units were intended from the outset to provide **routine police services among the local population. Over the years,** they were assigned additional complex duties, without the units being reinforced, or an intelligence infrastructure developed. These small units successfully discharged these additional duties, too, considering the complex and difficult circumstances.

3) The police units in the areas under the (jurisdiction of the) Military Government need significant reinforcement of manpower and resources — as well as an intelligence infrastructure — as a condition for real improvement in carrying out investigative duties pertaining to disputes between Jews and Arabs in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza District.

(Signed) Y. Qarti, Commander
head of Investigations Division

OAU's Onu Urges Collective African Defense

AB151852 Lagos NAN in English 1648 GMT 15 Feb 84

[By Adewale Fatona]

[Text] Lusaka, Feb 15 (NAN) — The acting secretary general of the OAU, Mr Peter Onu, has appealed to African leaders to act on the organization's 1976 summit resolution in which they agreed that an attack on one African state would be taken as an attack on all others.

Speaking in Lusaka on Monday with the southern African correspondent of the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN), Mr Onu said that one practical way of implementing the resolution was for OAU member-states to assist Angola with arms, food and medicine to enable it resist South Africa's military aggression. He noted that since the 1976 OAU resolution was passed, it had remained a dead letter and South Africa had seized "the opportunity to commit acts of aggression against the frontline states." [passage indistinct] South Africa's offer of dialogue with some of the frontline states was ominous for the region, adding that it was not a sincere move.

"It is a dangerous development which will ultimately make South Africa the winner in the region and keep apartheid intact," he said.

The international community, particularly OAU member-states, should give every possible assistance to the frontline states which were vulnerable to South African blackmail, Mr Onu added. "We believe that countries that are being forced by circumstances to confer with South Africa will not compromise their declared principles and abandon the liberation movements which they have been supporting," he said.

Mr Onu said that the time had come for the OAU to consider the position of the liberation movements seriously and try to work out new strategies for enhancing the struggle against apartheid in South Africa and the continued occupation of Namibia by the racist regime.

The acting secretary-general warned that the unresolved disputes in Chad and the Western Sahara could become intractable problems for this year's OAU summit in Conakry unless fresh and urgent efforts were made to find solutions to them.

Mr Onu disclosed that consultations were going on to see if another meeting could be convened to reconcile the parties to the Chadian dispute. He also said that member-states should persuade Morocco to respect the OAU's 19th summit accord on the Western Sahara which recognized the need for direct negotiations between it and the Polisario Front before a referendum could be held to determine the future of the former Spanish (?territory).

Anti-RSA Aid Solicited

MB160713 Harare Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] The acting secretary general of the OAU, Dr Peter Onu, says the OAU has failed to honor its commitments to help the frontline states counter the racist South African aggression.

In an interview with *THE HERALD* yesterday in Harare, Dr Onu called for concrete assistance from OAU member states, not just verbal solidarity. On the possibility of setting up a [word indistinct] OAU defense force, Dr Onu said the matter will be discussed at the next OAU Council of Ministers meeting in May in Conakry, Guinea.

Dr Onu, who is on a 6-nation tour, has met the prime minister, Comrade Mugabe, and the two have discussed problems within the OAU. Dr Onu has been to Angola, where he said there is a need to help the people there because of the continued illegal occupation of the territory by South Africa.

ALGERIA

President Congratulates Chernenko on Election

LD151918 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] The head of state has addressed a message of congratulations to Konstantin Chernenko on his election to the post of general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. The president of the republic and general secretary of the party writes in his message, among other things: I am convinced that under your direction the USSR will continue to work actively in favor of establishing universal peace. I am deeply convinced that the relations of friendship and cooperation between our two countries will continue to develop to the benefit of our peoples.

LIBYA

General People's Congress Meeting Continues

Al-Qadhdhafi: No Female Military Training

LD151343 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 0915 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Speech by Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi at morning session of General People's Congress meeting in Tripoli — live]

[Excerpt] A number of draft laws submitted by the leaderships, that is, the secretariat of the General People's Congress and the General People's Committee, have been defeated at the basic popular congresses.

There are differences; it is feared there are differences on the draft law for an armed people. The draft law for an armed people has suffered a heavy defeat, and it cannot be issued in this form because the people have rejected the setting up of an armed people at the [local or basic] popular congresses and preferred the statu quo, that is, conscription, mandatory military service.

This law cannot then be issued; no armed people but armed men, and I hope we will find them. This requires an end to the program of military training in all the girls schools and girls institutes. Therefore, starting the first of next month, I will issue an order to the Armed Forces to stop the general military training in girls schools and girls institutes and make this effort available for the training of boys. Women will be ineligible [for military service] because, since you have said to us that military service must be optional, there there is no reason for training them.

Support For Lebanon

LD151457 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Tripoli, 14 Feb (JANA) — Yesterday evening the General People's Congress sent the following cable to the fighters against the 10th crusade in Arab Lebanon. The cable was read at the end of yesterday's evening session:

We, the members of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah General People's Congress, salute your heroic steadfastness against the invading crusaders and Zionists. By your steadfastness, you have proved to the world that this nation's determination to fight will not waver however ferocious the imperialist offensive against our nation becomes. By your heroic struggle, you have restored honor to our nation just as Saladin did when he expelled the invading crusaders from the land of Arab Palestine after 70 years of occupation.

As we salute your bold spirit of sacrifice, which is the rock on which the arrogance of American imperialism and its allies will founder, we wish to affirm to you and to nobody besides your brothers in the Jamahiriyah stand by you with all their force, just as they have always done, loyal to the chaste blood of Libyans that flowed on the soil of Arab Lebanon throughout your heroic struggle against the fascists, the Zionist invasion, the leader of world terrorism, and its oppressive fleets.

We will spare no effort in supporting you with men and arms until the invaders are routed and their banners are smeared in the mud and they leave Arab Lebanon in disgrace and shame chased by the curses of all free men in this world.

Glory to our martyrs and defeat to the aggressors! Forward, and the struggle will continue!

[Signed] The General People's Congress, Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah

Stand on Lebanon Incidents

LD151533 Tripoli JANA in English 0852 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Tripoli, Jumada al-Ulla 12, Feb 15, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The General People's Congresses in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah yesterday evening reviewed what was decided by the masses of the basic people's congresses with regard to the issue of Lebanon incidents and the statement of Libyan Arab People's stand on this issue. The decision taken by the congresses' masses reads as follows:

1) The people's congresses salute the efforts taken by the leader of the revolution and bless the steps and efforts made by the Jamahiriyah with regard to the Lebanese problem and the Arab and the Islamic issues.

2) Support and aid to the Lebanese national movement and to the free Muslim power in Lebanon with all means of support which would enable them to repulse colonialist countries.

3) To morally and materially support Syria and to support the new revolutionary movement in Fatah so as to repulse the Zionist invasion of the Arab nation.

4) Affirmation of the decisions taken by the people's congresses as regard action to achieve unity, unification of Palestinian factions and factions of Lebanese resistance as well as calling on the Arabs to mobilise all their military and economic resources against the Israeli and U.S. enemy.

5) No recognition of the Lebanese regime and no support for it and rejection of the capitulatory document concluded between the Lebanese regime and the Zionist enemy.

6) Condemnation of those rulers who fell short of backing Lebanon and instigating the revolutionary forces in the Arab world as means to overthrow the symbols of treason and [word indistinct] and transfer the battle to the regimes [words indistinct] and to confront the U.S. enemy.

Sanctions Against Zaire, Liberia

LD160024 Tripoli JANA in English 1910 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Tripoli, Jumada al Ulla 12, Feb 15, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The General People's Congress resumed its deliberations this morning to formulate the resolutions of the basic people's congresses in their 3rd regular session of 1984. In the morning session the congress listened to the decisions of the basic people's congresses regarding the Jamahiriyah's stands towards the African countries which restored relations with the Zionist enemy and those considering it. The decisions taken by the congresses are as follows:

1. To freeze relations with Zaire and Liberia.

2. To work through the O.A.U. and exert pressure on those two countries so as to reconsider their attitude towards the Zionist enemy.

3. To coordinate with Arab countries and draw a plan for Arab effective action in Africa in order to convince the African states not to restore relations with the Zionist enemy and explain the racist nature of the Zionist enemy and South Africa.

4. To make political moves through international institutions and the O.A.U. to bring back the Jamahiriyah's investments in the holding companies in various countries.

5. The congresses affirm their previous decision by renewing support and backing for the revolutionary liberation movements in Africa.

MAURITANIA

Algerian Finance Official Talks About Visit

AB152110 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Mustafa Benamer, Algerian deputy minister of finance in charge of budget, left the country yesterday evening. He was seen off by Captain Mohamed (Emil Ould Ndieng), deputy minister of fishing and maritime economy, and by the Algerian ambassador to Mauritania. Mustafa Benamer takes stock of his visit while talking to our reporter Nati:

[Begin Benamer recording] As you know, we had the opportunity to exchange views with some brothers and members of the Mauritanian Cabinet, of course, on problems related to the financial, commercial, industrial, and fishing sectors since the minister of fishing is here by my side. We tried to review our relations and to see to what extent they can be developed and revitalized. Roughly, that was the purpose of this visit, which was not a special mission but rather a routine one. [end recording]

Belgian Industrial, Maritime Experts End Visit

AB152120 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Excerpt] A delegation of Belgian experts who had been visiting Mauritania since last Sunday left the capital yesterday evening. The visit was aimed at giving more impetus to the agreements signed in Belgium by the head of state during the discussions he held with the officials of the EEC in Brussels last November. The agreements cover the martime field, protection and promotion of investments, as well as economic, industrial, and technological cooperation. The Belgian ambassador, who led the delegation, takes stock of the visit:

[Begin recording] I can tell you that the Mauritanian head of state honored us by visiting Belgium 20 to 23 November last year in conjunction with an official visit to the Common Market. During the bilateral part of this visit, we signed several agreements: a maritime agreement; an agreement on the protection and promotion of investments; and an agreement on economic, industrial, and technological cooperation. Well, 2 or 3 months have passed since then and we found it necessary to come here to Nouakchott to ensure the continuation of this particularly successful visit made by the president of the Republic. [end recording]

MOROCCO

Delegation Returns From Andropov Funeral

LD151912 Rabat MAP in English 1204 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Rabat, Feb. 15. (MAP) — Morocco's Crown Prince Sidi Mohamed flew back home on Tuesday evening after he represented King Hassan II at the fineral of Soviet President Yuriy Andropov who died last Thursday. Crown Prince Sidi Mohamed was heading a ministerial delegation including Ministers of State Ahmed Usman, Maati Bouabid, Rahim Bouabid, M'hamed Boucetta, and Mahjoubi Aberdan, in addition to the Foreign Minister Abdelouahid Belkeziz and the king's adviser Mohamed Aouad.

Minister of State Returns From Libya

LD151908 Rabat MAP in English 1220 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Casablanca, Feb 15 (MAP) — Mr Mohamed Arsalane el Jadidi, Moroccan minister of state returned home Tuesday afternoon coming from Libya where he attended the works of the Libyan Popular General Congress. In a deceration made upon arrival Mr Arsalane el Jadidi underlined that he had been entrusted by King Hassan II to represent Morocco in this congress, specifying that he also attended this Congress in his capacity as secretary general of the national democratic party.

After he dealt with the congress attributions Mr Arsalane el Jadidi indicated that this institution acts as a parliament and that its works take place inthe presence of the popular general committee (government). Mr Arsalane el Jadidi described the Libyan experience as "unique in its kind" and presents "positive aspects," he added.

The minister of state indicated that he had with Libyan officials a series of talks on issues of common interest.

SUDAN

Kampala Radio Reports Steamer Explosion

EA151553 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] There has been a heavy loss of life following an explosion at a passenger steamer on River Nile in the Sudan. The explosion occured yesterday on a steamer traveling to Juba from Malakal with a capacity of 1,000 passengers on board at the time. The explosion is said to have been caused by a mortar shell.

WESTERN SAHARA

SDAR Premier on Latin Contacts, Other Topics

PA151228 Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 5 Feb 84 p D-23

[By Imperio Rodriguez]

[Text] Venezuela is one of the countries in Latin America that has expressed firm solidarity with our struggle for liberation, and it has served as a bridge for our contacts with other Latin American nations.

This statement by Mahfoud Ali Beiba, prime minister of the SDAR, summarizes the gratitude felt by the government of that Arab-African nation which is struggling for self-determination and sovereignty in a battle that is already 100 years old.

The attack by Morocco on the Saharan people, in its efforts to seize the territory of that former Spanish colony, is costing Moroco — which has a very poor economy and a foreign debt of over $11 billion — $3 million per day. Even so, there is a constant threat of war in that North African region.

Ali Beiba, one of the visiting heads of government who are attending the inauguration of President Jaime Lusinchi, gave *EL NACIONAL* an exclusive interview on the eve of his departure.

He had just met with Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge, one of his many meetings and consultations with the Latin American heads of state who signed a joint declaration in Caracas rejecting all destabilizing and warlike actions in the area. Ali Beiba told the Costa Rican president about his people's struggle and about the fact that war is also a factor that threatens the stability of the African Continent.

We knew that his delayed arrival was due to his meeting with Monge. Our first question obviously had to do with his contacts during his stay in Caracas. He began his reply by thanking the Venezuelan Government for the concern it has shown Sahara's struggle for independence. Our country officially recognized the SDAR last year, thus joining the 14 other Latin American countries that had done so, Panama being the first.

No issues involving bilateral cooperation were discussed in this visit, which was limited to the inaugural events, but it served to permit contacts with Latin American governments and to allow the prime minister to offer a more detailed account of the situation affecting the SDAR, for which Venezuela served as "an important bridge" with the other governments of the area.

The armed conflict between Morocco and the SDAR was summarized by the Saharan prime minister in the following terms:

— It involves a military escalation by the Kingdom of Morocco, which has categorically rejected any application of the OAU peace resolution that was unanimously approved by the United Nations. We raised this issue here because we believe it is of interest to the entire world, and because the Latin American nations can offer support and solidarity to my people and to their struggle, and can, with whatever means are available to them, urge the Moroccan Government to agree to negotiations and peace.

The Saharan prime minister next referred to the inability of Morocco's economy to support such a cruel and unjust war, which has provoked constant popular uprisings (in Morocco) in rejection of the conflict, demonstrating the Moroccan people's dissatisfaction with the goals of King Hassan II. By this war, he hopes "to kill two birds with one stone: to annex the Sahara, if possible, and then to get rid of the economic problems afflicting a country that has been made destitute by war."

— All of our contacts in Caracas with the presidents of Bolivia, Panama, Costa Rica, and other meetings that are still pending will permit us to inform them of the dangerous, threatening nature of the situation. During these various talks, we have been offered solidarity by these countries.

The commitment to peace of the Saharan people and government has always been reflected in the various international organizations where such conflicts are aired. In that respect, according to Ali Beiba, the OAU must be consistent in applying its principles, as the SDAR is a full-fledged member of that organization.

— We have consistently offered a peaceful alternative at the OAU. We hold to it and are fully prepared to help the OAU in implementing it, but we also believe that an effective solution of our situation requires an end to the irresponsible and rebellious behavior of Morocco, to be achieved by whatever means are necessary. We await the 20th OAU conference, though the organization has had difficulty for the past 2 years. The King of Morocco actually wants to destroy it, because it serves as a tool that promotes liberation on the continent, and there are various interests that do not agree with it.

The term established by the OAU for a referendum expired on 31 December 1983. The Saharan people in the occupied territory were expected to rally for independence in that referendum. That is the reason for Morocco's opposition to it, in disobedience of the OAU's mandate and in disregard of the efforts of the OAU delegations that visited the two countries in an attempt to resolve the conflict.

— Meanwhile, my people are determined to continue defending their country, with the support of the Moroccan people, who hold demonstrations in support of our cause...

Being the only Spanish-speaking Arab-African nation, the SDAR gives much importance to Latin America, not only because of cultural bonds, because of a shared history of struggle for national independence...

In the opinion of Ali Beiba, this common past determined "this mutual cooperation and permanent solidary. We also believe it will serve as a foundation for future cooperation. Of course, being a country of Spanish culture, we are committed to cooperate with and count on these countries."

— We also have a popular saying: "I shall never forget two: he who helped me, and he who helped by enemy." I believe we found here full solidarity, sympathy, and assistance. We shall preserve it, and history will preserve it.

We asked him how many Latin American countries maintain diplomatic relations with the SDAR.

— There are 14, but we expect the number will increase this year. The first to recognize the SDAR was Panama.

We thought of the Moroccan people subjected to the monarchy and to an unjust war, and we observed...Do the Moroccan people understand the Saharan struggle?

— They understand it quite well, and in recent popular demonstrations — last week — in their slogans they asked their fellow Moroccans to "stop the war immediately; long live the heroic Saharan people." The king himself referred to this in his speech and literally said "the Moroccan king has sold out [vendido]; long live the heroic Saharan people." [as published]

— We have a large number of Moroccan prisoners — some 1,500 members of the Moroccan Armed Forces of different ranks and units. They maintain permanent contact with their families through international organizations. Besides, life in Morocco has deteriorated year after year as result of the war, and the people know this...

The chief of the Spanish Government had left after expressing support for the democratization process in Latin America and the peace efforts in Central America. They were still fresh in our minds, and we thought of Spain's share of responsibility to its former colony and asked about the attitude of the Spanish Socialist Workers Party [PSOE] concerning the Saharan struggle.

— Well, Spain has a permanent responsibility to our people and the world. It declared itself responsible for leading these people to independence, and it has to pay that debt.

— We had very good relations with the PSOE before Felipe Gonzalez assumed power. At present, our relations are not very good because there still has been no gesture on the part of Spain on the level of the position maintained by the Latin American nations, but we have started a dialogue and our delegations are preparing to visit Madrid in an effort to improve relations.

— Why are the relations at the government level not smooth, if they were so with the PSOE?

— The government is still subjected to some blackmail on the part of Morocco, for example, in fisheries. My country has the best fishing bank in the world, and Spain has even signed agreements with Morocco — without our consent — to fish in our territorial waters. These being a war zone, Spanish vessels have been detained by our army, and in the past few years several such incidents have been reported...

He also recalled Spain's giving away his country's territory to Morocco and Mauritania by virtue of the Madrid tripartite agreement, which is the cause of the present conflict and another reason why the Spanish democratic change should lead to the recognition of the SDAR and its right to become a sovereign republic.

— Spain is compelled to hold a dialogue with the SDAR, as that is the correct moral, legal, historical, and political attitude. The procedure would be to recognize the right of our people and then sign agreements with our diplomatic delegation.

In the long talk with the SDAR prime minister, there were many topics broached regarding the liberation struggle of a people who amid an unjust war are maintaining their institutions and preparing for a better future within the concert of free nations.

The visiting Saharan delegation headed by Ali Beiba also included Bulahe Jalifa, the prime minister's adviser; deputy Ahmed Berical-La; Hamdi Sidi Mahmud, the ambassador to Panama; and Omar Mansur, the ambassador in Caracas.

ETHIOPIA

Mengistu Meets With Delegation Leaders in Moscow

EA152240 Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1530 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam, now in Moscow, has had private talks with the leaders of Cuba and Mozambique as well as delegation leaders of Libya, Angola, and SWAPO. Comrade Chairman Mengistu has separate talks with Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz of Cuba and with Comrade Samora Machel, president of Mozambique. The revolutionary leader also exchanged views with Comrade Yunis Abu Bakr Jabir, defense minister [title as heard] of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah; Comrade Luvualu, Political Bureau member of the MPLA of Angola; and Comrade Sam Nujoma, president of the SWAPO. The talks centered on bilateral relations and international issues and mutual interests and concerns.

Andropov Accomplishments Reviewed

EA152204 Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1530 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] *SERTO ADER*, organ of the Central Committee of COPWE, has published a special issue in connection with the passing away ofComrade President Yuriy Andropov of the USSR. In its special issue *SERTO ADER* made an extensive review of the great tasks accomplished by the late Comrade Andropov during his lifetime. *SERTO ADER* recalled efforts made by the late president of the USSR in the political, economic, social, and cultural fields, as well as in the sectors of foreign relations and defense force, and the endeavors Comrade Andropov made to translate resolutions passed by the 26th general Congress of the Communist Party of the USSR. The Central Committee of COPWE organ also widely commented on the contributions rendered by Comrade Andropov to advance socialist construction in the USSR by devising new plans of action and by adopting a systematic analysis of Marxism in relation to the current historical reality prevailing in the world.

KENYA

Foreign Minister Mwangale Received by Soviet Leaders

EA151853 Nairobi KNA in English 1425 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Moscow: The minister for foreign affairs, Mr W.E. Mwangale, was among the many world leaders who attended the funeral ceremonies for the late Soviet leader Yuriy Andropov in the Red Square yesterday. Mr Mwangale attended the ceremony as a personal representative of H.E. President Daniel arap Moi. He was accompanied to the funeral by his assistant minister, Mr Philip Leakey, and the charge d'affaires at the Kenyan Embassy in Moscow, Mr J.A. Odongo.

Soon after the ceremony, Mr Mwangale had an opportunity to meet the new Soviet leadership, led by their General Secretary Konstantin Chernenko, to whom he personally handed President Moi's message of condolence.

On arrival in Moscow on Monday, 13 February, Mr Mwangale and his delegation were met by the Kenyan charge d'affaires in Moscow, Mr J.A. Odongo, including all members of the Kenya Embassy staff and representatives of the Soviet Government. Mr Mwangale laid a wreath on the bier of the late Soviet president in the Hall of Columns, where the body lay for viewing.

The evening after the funeral ceremonies, Mwangale met Kenyan students in Moscow at the embassy building, where he was told that there were more than 350 Kenyan students in the Soviet Union, engaged mostly in scientific and technical studies.

The minister warmly thanked the Soviet Government for the scholarships and other assistance they were giving to the Kenyan Government and urged the students to study hard and return home to help in the development of their country in their various fields of specialization. The minister appealed to them and all Kenyans studying abroad not to import any foreign ideologies to Kenya from countries of their study, because we had evolved our own philosophy of *nyayo* [footsteps] which we follow.

Before leaving for home, the minister had a meeting with members of the Kenyan Embassy staff, whom he briefed on developments at home. He assured them that H.E. the president has confidence in the whole civil service and asked them to dedicate themselves in the service of our nation.

SOMALIA

Siad Barre Congratulates Chernenko on Appointment

EA152038 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1700 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] The SRSP secretary general, Challe Mohamed Siad Barre, today sent a message of congratulations to the new CPSU general secretary, Konstantin Chernenko. He said: On behalf of the Somali people, the party, the government and on my own behalf, I congratulate you on your appointment as the new CPSU general secretary and wish you success in your post.

CHAD

Delegation Leaves for Nigeria; To Meet With Buhari

AB151220 Paris AFP in French 1048 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Ndjamena, 15 Feb (AFP) — A Chadian delegation led by Livestock and Water Resources Minister Moussa Seif Adoum and including Kerim Togoi, secretary general of the Presidency of the Republic, left Ndjamena on Tuesday for Lagos, it was learned today from a well-informed source in the Chadian capital. Adoum Moussa is to deliver a message from Chadian President Hissein Habre to Nigerian Head of State General Muhammadu Buhari, the same source indicated.

Professor Rufai Akindete, director of the Nigerian Institute of International Affairs, last Thursday affirmed that Nigeria should support one of the Chadian factions and keep to that choice, it was recalled. He also was of the opinion that the Libyan activities in Chad were more alarming than the presence of the French troops.

The visit of the Chadian delegation comes at a time when Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud, the Libyan "second in command," is visiting the Nigerian capital.

CONGO

Sassou-Nguesso Receives Mozambican, French Officials

AB152142 Dakar PANA in French 1336 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Brazzaville, 15 Feb (ACI/PANA) — Congolese head of state Denis Sassou-Nguesso received in audience on Tuesday Mr Zacharias Kupella, the secretary general of the Mozambique youth, and Mr Leclerc, the head of the French military cooperation mission, respectively.

Mr Zacharias Kupella brought to President Denis Sassou-Nguesso a message from his Mozambique counterpart, Mr Samora Machel. The secretary general of the Mozambique youth discussed with the Congolese head of state the internal situation in his country, which is marked by the fight against the rebels of the Mozambique National Resistance Movement (MNR) armed and (?supported) by South Africa.

The leader of the Mozambique youth also briefed President Sassou-Nguesso about the effects of the natural disasters, especially the drought, that affect the southern part of his country inhabited by over 1 million people.

Talks between General Leclerc and President Sassou-Nguesso mainly centered on the improvements that must be made in the military cooperation between France and the Congo in order to make it more effective.

BENIN

GUNT Delegation Head Decries French Presence in Chad

AB151245 Paris AFP in French 1031 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Cotonou, 15 Feb (AFP) — A Chadian Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] delegation headed by Boukar Abdoul Nanasbaye was received in audience yesterday in Cotonou by Beninese President General Mathieu Kerekou. The delegation delivered to the Beninese head of state a message from GUNT President Goukouni Oueddei. It also discussed with President Kerekou the situation in Chad as well as the early Janaury abortive roundtable meeting between all the factions in Addis Ababa.

"We are wondering how [words indistinct]" of President Goukouni Oueddei, explaining: "Before leaving Addis Ababa, we asked current OAU Chairman President Mengistu Haile Mariam to make the same efforts toward the organization of a new conference with the same agenda."

Boukar Abdoul Nanasbaye also described as a "provocation" the French Government's recent decision to move the "Red Line" separating the two parties to the conflict in Chad more than 100 km north. He explained later that it was in that part of the desert area where all the water wells were found and where all the people must certainly go for water. But the French, he added, have threatened to attack anybody who dares to go there.

"I wonder," the GUNT envoy said, "if France wants to replace Hissein Habre's Armed Forces of the North and fight in the place of Chadians." "We want to let the French understand," he condluded, "that this civil war concerns Chadians. We are not at war with the French. If they are in Chad, we wonder with whom they want to fight. Is it to exterminate one group of Chadians to the benefit of another?"

Rawlings Speech Read at Accra AAPSO Meeting

AB151953 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] The chairman of the Provisional National Defense Council, [PNDC] Flight Lieutenant Rawlings, today stated that the peoples of Africa and Asia and their true allies throughout the world are determined to liberate southern Africa from racism and colonial oppression. In a speech read on his behalf by member of the PNDC Mr Ebow Tawiah at the opening of the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization [AAPSO] in Accra, Flight Lt Rawlings said the peoples of these continents are confident that the seemingly invincible apartheid system in southern Africa will crumble against the ever-increasing [word indistinct] of the liberation struggle.

Flight Lt Rawlings noted, however, that the challenges confronting liberation movements are infinitely more complex and formidable than has been seen in most other places, and urged delegates to consider how to achieve victory over apartheid. Chairman Rawlings also charged the conference to consider ways and means of marshaling international support to end apartheid, and he declared: We, the peoples of Africa and Asia, are not warmongers. We have already preferred negotiations to military solutions to world problems. The PNDC chairman said South Africa constantly initiates the aggressive acts of warfare and thus continues to claim many lives, adding that mere condemnations and (?rhetoric) will never be enough.

Flight Lt Rawlings paid tribute to such illustrious sons of Africa like Steve Biko, Amilcar Cabral, and Patrice Lumumba for their activities in the cause for which they died.

Soviet Experts To Assist With Nuclear Research Center

AB151810 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 15 Feb 84

[From the Press Review]

[Text] Soviet experts are expected in the country by next month to assess the immediate needs of the National Nuclear Research Center to enable the Soviet Government to help reactivate the center. A front-page story of the *PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC* said the experts who were originally scheduled to visit the Tema Machine-Building and Engineering Center will now visit the nuclear research center as the result of the visit of the Soviet economic counselor, Mr Grigoriy (Mulyakov), to the center yesterday.

Dr M.K. (Gbodjo), a member of the Interim Coordinating Committee of the Atomic Energy Commission, who took the delegation around, appealed to Mr (Mulyakov) for assistance in training about six technicians to man certain machines at the center. He also called for assistance to replace two reactor transformers which were destroyed by fire 3 years ago.

Mr (Mulyakov) assured him that when the experts come these will be considered, and a second team is going to undertake a study of the details for the assistance needed.

LIBERIA

Doe Dismisses Ambassador, Deputy Finance Minister

AB151229 Paris AFP in English 1201 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Monrovia, Feb 15 (AFP) — The Liberian ambassador to Guinea, David Konoe Wright, and Deputy Minister for Revenues and Excise Tax Henrietta Koenig have been dismissed by Liberian Head of State Samuel K. Doe. In a statement, Mr Doe said they had been dismissed for what he described as a "betrayal of the trust and confidence" that he and his military regime had placed in them.

In separate dismissal letters, Mr Doe said that they had "indulged in telling lies" about the government, especially outside of the country. The former ambassador was also dismissed from the Armed Forces.

MALI

Gen Traore Sends Chernenko Congratulatory Message

AB152205 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] The secretary general of the Democratic Union of Malian People [UDPM] and president of the republic has sent a message to His Excellency Konstantin Chernenko, secretary general of the CPSU Central Committee. Here is the message:

I am particularly glad to address to you, on behalf of the Malian people, their party, the UDPM, their government, and on my own behalf, my very hearty and warm congratulations on the occasion of your election to the post of general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. The entire Malian people are happy about such a choice, which is an honor to you, and constitutes eloquent evidence of your wide experience, competence and devotion to the cause of national reconstruction.

I am sure that the Soviet people under your enlightened leadership will continue to win more victories in the task of building socialism. There is no doubt that under your dynamic initiative the current Conference on Disarmament will find a favorable solution for peace and security in the world.

I remain convinced that the fruitful cooperation, both at the bilateral and international levels, which has been the basis of our relationship, will be further strengthened each day for the well-being of our peoples.

I express my very sincere wishes for your personal happiness and for the prosperity of the people of the Soviet Union.

Very high regards,

[Signed] General Moussa Traore

NIGERIA

Buhari Says Country Seeks Stronger Ties With FRG

AB151815 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] All aspects of Nigeria's relations with West Germany are to be persued with vigor. This was stated today at Dodan barracks by the head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, while receiving a special message from the West German leader, Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

The head of state said that Nigeria valued her relationship with West Germany as an important trading partner. He expressed satisfaction with the performance of German firms in Nigeria and hoped that economic and cultural ties between the two countries will be enhanced.

Delivering the message, the West German ambassador in Nigeria, Mr Bernd Oldenkott, told Gen Buhari that Chancellor Kohl fully appreciated the present situation in Nigeria. The ambassador said that West Germany attached great importance to the economic and cultural relations between her and Nigeria.

New Fleet To Make Waters 'Less Vulnerable'

AB151118 Lagos NAN in English 1015 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Calabar, Feb 14 (NAN) — The chief of naval staff, Commodore Augustus Aikhomu, said today in Calabar that the completion of all abandoned naval projects in Cross River would be given priority.

Speaking during a courtesy call on the governor, Commodore Aikhomu said that one of such projects, which would soon be completed, was the naval base at James Town in Oron, which had been abandoned due to lack of funds.

Commodore Aikhomu disclosed that the Navy would soon begin operating a fleet from Calabar to other parts of the country, in a bid to make the country's territorial waters less vulnerable to foreign incursion.

He expressed the hope that the governor would maintain a good relationship with the Navy because it would be to everybody's advantage if these projects were completed as soon as possible.

Responding, Governor Edet Archibong said that he was happy that the Navy had not forgotten the people of Cross River, adding that he would do his best to give assistance.

Use of Private Aircraft Banned Throughout Nation

AB150930 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] The Federal Military Government has banned the operation of private aircraft in the country with immediate effect. In compliance with the directives, the Nigerian Airports Authority, NAA, has instructed all airport managements throughout the country to take delivery of all private jets. The managing director of the NAA, Alhaji Tijani Ahmed, further directed all companies and private individuals in possession of particulars related to all aircraft to hand them over to the nearest airport manager without delay. He said failure to comply with the directives would be viewed seriously.

A Radio Nigeria airport correspondent reports, however, that private aircraft still operate chartered flights at the old domestic terminal. The vice president of the Intercontinental Airlines Services, Phillip Ewotuba, said he had not received the order and that chartered flights might not be affected by the instruction.

Egypt Urged To Help in African Liberation Struggle

AB151816 Lagos International Service in English 1630 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] The military governor of Kaduna, Air Commodore Usman Muazu, has urged Egypt to continue to cooperate with Nigeria in its efforts to ensure the total liberation of Africa.

The governor told the Egyptian minister plenipotentiary and Consul General, Mr (Hamad Hamudah), in his office that the cordial relationship existing between Nigeria and Egypt was commendable. Air Commodore Muazu also called for greater cooperation in agriculture, education, and health between the two nations.

Replying, Mr (Hamudah) expressed his willingness to explore more areas of cooperation between Nigeria and Egypt.

Advantages of Country's Remaining in OPEC Touted
AB151741 Lagos NAN in English 1535 GMT 15 Feb 84

[NAN feature: "Nigeria Should Remain in OPEC"; by John Ndukauba, NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA]

[Text] Addressing the 6th annual convention of his now-banned UPN [Unity Party of Nigeria] in Abeokuta last December, Chief Obafemi Awolowo urged Nigeria to leave OPEC. He felt that remaining in OPEC was inimical to Nigeria's economic progress and suggested that on leaving, the country should begin producing 2 million barrels of oil daily.

Earlier, former Senator David Dafinone had pushed a motion through the defunct Senate, which among other things called on the country "to negotiate for a raise in its OPEC quota of 1.3 million barrels a day (mbd) to 2 mbd or quit the organization."

Speaking in an Ondo radio programme recently, an industrialist, Chief Ade Falade, also called on Nigeria to pull out of OPEC if it was not allowed to increase its production ceiling. He suggested that Nigeria should sell its oil in the open market to alleviate its present economic difficulties. Asked whether this would not worsen the glut, Chief Falade replied that there was a glut already and therefore "it becomes a game of survival of the fittest".

These "quit-OPEC" calls all seem to stem from the economic difficulties facing Nigeria, which have resulted in severe shortage of raw material and spare parts needed to keep factories and [passage indistinct] the nation's kitty has been progressively declining.

Implicit in the "quit-OPEC" call is the belief that the organization has contributed to the nation's present debacle and all would be well once Nigeria left. But will leaving OPEC improve the shape of the economy? Can the country survive the harsh conditions outside the cartel? The danger in the present debate over membership is that the country may fail to identify the real cause of its problems and consequently fail to take corrective measures.

Nigeria joined OPEC in July 1971 as the group's 11th member. Today there are 13 countries, some African and non-African. Two main incidents led to the formation of OPEC in 1959: Oil companies unilaterally reduced the posted price for Venezuela's crude by 0.05 dollar per barrel, and that for the Middle East by 0.18 dollar per barrel. Then in August 1960, the companies again reduced Middle East posted prices for crude oil by between 0.1 dollar and 0.14 dollar per barrel.

Oil-producing nations then realized that it was only through collective action that they could obtain real value for their product and so, on September 10, representatives from Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Venezuela decided to form OPEC.

Like the newly formed Association of Tin-Producing Countries (ATPC), the Cocoa Alliance, Groundnut Council and similar commodity organizations, OPEC is a producers' group, with the primary goal of safeguarding group interests. It seeks to devise ways and means of ensuring the stabilization of prices in international oil markets with the view to eliminating harmful and unnecessary fluctuations, due regard being given at all times to the interests of the producing nations and to the need of securing a steady income for them.

It is imperative that Nigeria should remain in the organization, since one of the reasons is to ensure stable prices. If prices are stable it would be possible for the country to forecast revenues that would accrue in any given period. In the 1982 and 1983 budgets, for example, revenues were based on an oil production figure of 1 million barels per day.

A survey of OPEC's 13 memmber-countries also shows that Nigeria will not benefit by quitting. Most of them have well-developed petrochemical industries and huge off-shore investments to supplement earnings from the sale of crude oil.

On leaving, Nigeria's much vaunted quality crude will at once be competing with Algeria's, other North African crudes, and that of Britain's North Sea. Can the country withstand competition?

Some analysts feel that the world outside OPEC is hostile, and Nigeria should use all its diplomacy and skill to get the best out of OPEC. Sharing this view is the head of state, Major-General Muhammadu Buhari [passage indistinct].

Any move by Nigeria to get out of OPEC will bring about the collapse of the current 29-30 dollars per barrel price, as more oil [words indistinct] ceiling of 17.5 million barrels a day.

Advocates of the "quit-OPEC" school argue that the country will be free to sell whatever amount and at whatever price it will. This, however, assumes that Nigeria is the only oil supplier in the world. In addition to OPEC's 13 members, Britain, Mexico, Norway, the Soviet Union, Egypt and some other smaller countries produce oil in varying amounts.

Price is the function of demand and supply. And at the moment oil demand is at its lowest ebb. Except the price rises above the present 29-30 dollars a barrel, and this may be unlikely in the next few years, selling 2 million or 3 million barrels of oil at 20-22 dollars per barrel will not necessarily improve the country's finances. Already there are pressures on non-OPEC producers to lower their price, and it is with these producers that Nigeria would compete once outside OPEC.

The way out of the present economic mess is not by quitting OPEC, but by prudently managing the country's resources, judiciously investing in self-financing industrial projects and discarding prestigious ventures. Participation in international

conferences by retinues of government officials should also be discontinued.

In the coming years oil prices will fluctuate and the country should be fully involved in producing petrochemicals and liquified natural gas. These ventures can cushion the shock of further reduced oil prices and increase earnings which do not necessarily depend on imported petroleum products.

Financial Aid for SWAPO, ANC Deemed Necessary

AB151216 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Deli Koko commentary]

[Text] That the African liberation forces are the pivots on which the total emancipation of the continent from the vestiges of foreign and oppressive rule revolves is not in doubt. What is doubtful, however, is their capabilities to wage a successful liberation struggle against the racist regime in South Africa. This is so because SWAPO, which is fighting to free racist South Africa's stranglehold on Namibia, and the ANC, that is trying to liberate the blacks from the oppressive racist minority rule in South Africa, are now finding it difficult to sustain liberation efforts owing to dwindling resources. Hence, the call by the OAU Liberation Committee at its recent meeting in Arusha, Tanzania for more material and financial aid to the liberation movements must be encouraged by the world communities, especially by African peoples, for it is only with such aid that the national liberation movements in southern Africa can intensify their armed struggle against the inhuman system of segregation in South Africa and the colonizing stand of the racist regime in Namibia.

Definitely, the era of pious resolutions and speeches of solidarity with the liberation struggle and the frontline states is over. It is now time for African states and their friends to show concrete commitment to the liberation struggle. Of late, the South African regime has acquired some new and sophisticated weapons terrorizing enough to overwhelm the hit-and-run tactics of the liberation movements. Consequently, for the liberation movement to succeed — that is, in ensuring political freedom for the South African and Namibian peoples — the revitalization of the liberation movements is necessary at this stage.

The move by the new military government in Nigeria in paying all the arrears it was owing the OAU Liberation Committee must be seen as a commendable move in the right direction. This clearly demonstrates Nigeria's commitment to the liberation struggle and the fact that it makes Africa the centerpiece of its foreign policy.

There is no doubt at present that all efforts to find a negotiated settlement to the southern African question have failed due to the intransigence of the racist regime and the encouragement from its Western mentors. Since South Africa arrogantly believes that if it comes to a showdown, the liberation movements are no threats to its security, African nations must through the OAU Liberation Committee strengthen the different movements so that they have the necessary military requirements to stand the racist aggression and prosecute the liberation war.

From the utterances of some of the racists' Western supporters, especially the United States, it is clear that the southern African problem is perceived by them from the geopolitical polarized world of capitalism. Since African nations cannot depend on the Western world to help resolve the southern African crisis because of their dubious role and connection with the racist regime, African countries must therefore make it their duty to bring justice and peace to that part of the continent. And this they can do through the barrel of the gun only. The liberation movements must be given all the necessary resources and support to be able to stand up to the threats of the racist regime.

TOGO

Eyadema Sends Condolences to USSR Supreme Soviet

AB151032 Lome Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Yesterday the head of state, General Gnassingbe Eyadema, sent a message of condolences to the deputy chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet on the occasion of the death of Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU and chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

In this message, President Eyadema expresses his deep sorrow as well as that of the Togolese people, party and government in these painful circumstances. They feel the great affliction of the Soviet people, who in Mr Andropov have lost a great leader who as chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet devoted himself to his country with courage and dedication. The people of Togo, their party, government and leader salute the memory of the illustrious leader who is gone and express their sincere condolences to the Soviet people and to Mr Andropov's family, and renew their feeling of sympathy and solidarity.

UPPER VOLTA

Former Minister Compaore Given 7-Year Sentence

AB152145 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Excerpts] The trial of Andre Rock Compaore ended this afternoon. The trial began on 5 February at the Ouagadougou People's Hall. Andre Rock Compaore, I would like to remind you, was minister of rural development under the Military Committee of Recovery for National Progress of Colonel Saye Zerbo. His trial, which began at the same time as that of Leonard Kalmogo, lasted 9 days. There is no doubt that so far it was the longest trial. The verdict came this evening. Thus, the tribunal decided to transfer the issue of (?Eurobuilding) to the case file of Saye Zerbo.

The amount embezzled by Andre Rock Compaore was 22,166,230 CFA francs. The Revolutionary People's Tribunal also found that Andre Rock Compaore was also guilty of embezzling (?one-quarter) of the 170 million CFA francs budgeted for

the (Korsumoro) dam construction. He is also guilt of illegally amassing wealth in the amount of 10,166,000 CFA francs on the national territory of Upper Volta and to the detriment of the Upper Volta state.

The tribunal hereby sentences Andre Rock Compaore to 7 years prison term: 2 years at hard labor, and a suspended sentence for the remaining 5 years. He is to reimburse the state 15 million CFA francs. He will also reimburse the state the sum of 22,166,230 CFA francs or forfeit to the state property equivalent to the amount embezzled.

RSA, Angola, U.S. Meet in Lusaka on Peace Settlement

MB160602 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] Delegations from South Africa, Angola, and the United States meet in Lusaka today for talks on a peace settlement in southern Africa. Senior State Department officials in Washington have said that one of the matters to be discussed is the possible use of a small group of Americans to monitor the disengagement of South African forces in southern Angola. A Voice of America correspondent says the monitoring team would probably include military personnel from the Cape Verde Islands. The purpose of the team would be to enter the area to make sure that no one exploited the situation.

A spokesman for the American State Department has said that the United States is prepared to provide members for an international observer force that would include contingents from several other countries.

The South African delegation to the talks in the Zambian capital is being led by the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, who said in reply to a question that discussions would deal mainly with disengagement and the means of achieving it. There were also prospects of talks dealing with the overall problems of the region.

The American delegation will be led by the assistant secretary of state for African affairs, Dr Chester Crocker, and the Angolan delegation by the minister of the interior, Mr Alexandre Rodrigues.

Last year, Mr Rodrigues held talks with South Africa officials on the Cape Verde Islands.

Zambia's Kaunda Opens Talks

MB161320 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] State House today confirmed that delegations from South Africa, Angola, and the United States are meeting in Lusaka for talks for a peace settlement in southern Africa. Special assistant to the president at State House, Mr (Mulimo Kalawanzi), said in Lusaka that His Excellency President Kaunda opened the meeting this morning. Mr (Kalawanzi) said the meeting was a closed one and discussions [words indistinct] and no details could be given at this stage.

And in Lisbon [words indistinct] South Africa and Mozambique said they have had positive talks on the future of the Cahora Bassa hydroelectric plant and will meet again in a short time in [word indistinct] after 2 days of discussions on the huge dam, which is supplying electricity to South Africa and is constantly sabotaged by report to their respective governments. South African Deputy Foreign Minister Louis Nel said after the talks ended yesterday that the [word indistinct] was an important issue, adding that the problem could only be financially viable [words indistinct]. Mr Nel said South Africa and Mozambique were already discussing security in the region as a whole within a commission established during talks last month. Both the Portuguese delegation led by [words indistinct] of state, Antonio de Almeida, and the Mozambican team led by Energy Minister Antonio Branco, described the talks as very positive.

Mozambique, RSA, Portugal Optimistic on Cahora Bassa

MB152018 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] All three delegations to the Cahora Bassa talks in Lisbon have expressed optimism about the outcome of the meeting. The South African deputy foreign minister, Mr Louis Nel, told our correspondent in the Portuguese capital that South Africa was taking part in the talks in the hope that they would contribute towards current efforts to achieve peace in southern Africa. The negotiations, he said, were being conducted in a friendly and cordial atmosphere.

The leader of the Mozambican delegation is the minister of industry, Mr Antonio Branco, who said he was hoping for positive results. The Portuguese delegation is being led by the state secretary for the treasury, Mr Antonio de Almeida, who said that his government was playing a mediatory role in the search for a solution which would benefit Portugal as well. The talks are intended to lead to a new agreement between Mozambique and South Africa on the supply of electricity from the Cahora Bassa scheme to South Africa. The scheme was financed and built in the sixties and seventies by an international consortium headed by Portugal.

ANGOLA

Funeral Delegation Conveys Messages to Chernenko

MB151413 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] The MPLA-Labor Party delegation which has gone to Moscow to attend the funeral of Yuriy Andropov has delivered a message from Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the party and president of the Republic, to Konstantin Chernenko, the new general secretary of the CPSU. On the occasion the delegation, led by Comrade Pascoal Luvualu, member of the Political Bureau, conveyed condolences from the Angolan people, the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee, and Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos to Konstantin Chernenko. In addition, the Angolan party delegation conveyed congratulations on behalf of the MPLA-Labor Party to Comrade Konstantin Chernenko on his [words indistinct] election as general secretary of the CPSU.

Meanwhile, in the Soviet capital the Angolan delegation has held a number of talks with other delegations present at the funeral of Yuriy Andropov.

MPLA's Ruth Neto Says RSA Troops Still in Country

MB151009 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] South African Army troops continue to operate in southern Angola, where they still occupy vast areas of Cunene

Province and savagely kill hundreds of defenseless civilians and destroy economic and social centers. For this reason, Comrade Ruth Neto, a member of the Central Committee of the MPLA-Labor Party, on a visit to a number of Western countries, has been briefing international public opinion on the situation in our country characterized by South African aggression.

After visiting France, Great Britain, and the FRG, Comrade Ruth Neto is now in Canada, where she asked Western countries for concrete support for the victims of South African aggression with a view to putting an immediate end to the continued attacks on Angola. The present situation in the southern region of the African Continent, particularly with regard to the Namibian issue, was also underlined by Comrade Ruth Neto.

Envoy in Brussels Discusses Namibia Settlement

MB151343 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Joaquim Lemos, our country's ambassador to Belgium, has said that Angola cannot be held responsible for the delay in the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 435/78 for the independence of Namibia. Comrade Joaquim Lemos was addressing the Council of Ministers of the African, Caribbean and Pacific countries held in Brussels recently.

On statements by the South African foreign minister on the cease-fire with Angola and SWAPO and on the withdrawal of the South African troops from Cunene, he pointed out that the events observed in the region dismissed such statements. Accordingly, he recalled the violent act of aggression carried out by South Africa against the Angolan people last December while the South African foreign minister was announcing in Pretoria that South Africa had accepted a cease-fire with the parties involved in the southern African conflict.

The Angolan ambassador to Belgium also pointed out that in this region of the African Continent imperialism had strategic interests which it would never abandon in favor of peoples who desire peace and liberty.

Luanda Reports Priest Killed in UNITA Ambush

MB151440 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] The UNITA counterrevolutionary gangs are continuing to inflict casualties on the defenseless people, thus reflecting their desperation in the face of the violent blows that the Angolan Armed Forces have been inflicting upon them.

In Huambo Province, once again the victims were defenseless civilians, who are among the people whom UNITA claims to defend. The counterrevolutionaries attacked two civilian trucks in which members of a Catholic mission and other passengers were traveling on the road between Caala and (?Cuima). Four people, including Father (Gabriel da Graca Bambi), principal of the (Kalumba) Catholic Mission, were killed in this criminal action, and (?three) others were injured. The latter have been taken to the Huambo Central Hospital. According to ANGOP, which quoted authorized military sources, the two vehicles were completely destroyed and the goods they carried were plundered.

In January, other murders were committed in Huambo by the UNITA counterrevolutionaries, who set and detonated bombs at public parks in the provincial capital. A total of four people were killed and four others injured.

MADAGASCAR

Algerian Parliamentary Delegation Arrives on Visit

MB151038 Antananarivo Domestic Service in French 0430 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] An Algerian parliamentary delegation arrived in Madagascar yesterday. (Ahmadou), the vice president of the People's National Assembly, and (Janapalen Constant), the administrative officer, received the delegation at (Hilvatu) Airport on arrival. The delegation was received in the afternoon by Lucien Andrianarahinjaka, the president of the People's National Assembly.

(Absahal Brahimi), the head of the Algerian delegation, expressed satisfaction with the welcome accorded him and his delegation. He said that the two countries were linked by a common history. The Algerian 8 May massacre brings to mind the March 1947 revolt in Madagascar, he added. He also spoke about the exile of (Ranaval) III and of Prime Minister (Robert Dune) in Algiers and a number of common points which should bring together our two countries.

In turn, Lucien Andrianarahinjaka, the president of the People's National Assembly, stated that during their recent meeting, Presidents Chadli Bandjedid and Didier Ratsiraka reaffirmed the desire to continue to fight side by side against imperialism and colonialism which may appear in different forms.

To conclude, the Algerian delegation presented an official invitation to the People's National Assembly to attend the African Parliamentary Union conference due in Algiers in March 1984, which will also be attended by Tanzania and the Seychelles.

MAURITIUS

Labor Party Leaders Vote To Leave Coalition

AB151208 Paris AFP in English 1019 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Port Louis, Feb 15 (AFP) — Leaders of the Labor Party of Mauritius have voted to withdraw from the coalition governing the Indian Ocean island since elections last August. At a four-hour meeting yesterday, the party executive accepted by 48 votes to 23 a motion from its secretary-general Sir Satcam Boolell to leave the government. The move followed the sacking of Sir Satcam from his post of planning and development minister last Friday.

Labor MP's who have indicated they intend to stay in the government have been given 15 days by the party leadership to make up their minds definitely.

Sir Satcam told his supporters: "We have broken the alliance with the government because it was as a Labor Party minister that I was kicked out of the government."

The party has been in an alliance with the Mauritian Socialist Movement (MSM) led by Prime Minister Aneerood Jugnauth. The Labor Party has 12 seats in the 70-member Parliament. The government coalition had a total of only 46 seats, so if the Labor MP's were to leave the government, this could deprive it of a majority.

MOZAMBIQUE

Political Bureau Member Assesses Work of Party Cells

MB151617 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1400 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] A meeting called to analyze the performance of the departments of the Frelimo Party Central Committee began in Maputo today under the guidance of Major General Jorge Rebelo, member of the Frelimo Party Political Bureau. The objective of the meeting is to improve the quality of the party work and guarantee its efficiency.

Speaking at the opening session of the meeting, Jorge Rebelo, a member of the Frelimo Party Political Bureau, recalled that at previous meetings it had became clear that, with rare exceptions, the party cells do not function adequately, and reflect laziness and the absence of a working program. Because of this, the meeting which began today will concentrate its efforts on the functioning of cells at the grassroots level. Jorge Rebelo stressed that the party does not exist without cells.

During the course of the opening session, this member of the Frelimo Party Political Bureau also said that in order for the cells to function correctly, it is necessary to improve the standard of training of cadres so as to strengthen the party machine. Another aspect examined by Major General Jorge Rebelo is the party's emphasis on the economic, defense, and organizational areas, which were defined by the Fourth Frelimo Party Congress as priority areas in the combat against famine and the armed bandits.

Departmental heads of the central and provincial committees of the Frelimo Party are participating in this meeting, which is scheduled to last 3 days.

GDR's Honecker Sends Condolences to Cyclone Victims

MB151447 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Erich Honecker, general secretary of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED] Central Committee and chairman of the GDR Council of State, has sent a message to President Samora Machel expressing his profound sorrow for the victims of Cyclone Domoina. The message stresses: On behalf of the SED Central Committee, and the Council of State and people of the GDR, I convey to you our profound sorrow for the victims of the Cyclone Domoina, as well as the large material losses that it has caused. The messages goes on to say: I ask you to convey my sincere condolences to the bereaved families. Chairman Erich Honecker ends his message by reiterating the GDR's solidarity with the Mozambican people at this difficult hour.

Lome Convention Delegation Meets With Ministers

MB151328 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] The visiting delegation from the European Parliament and the ACP [African, Caribbean, and Pacific] group of countries is today holding talks with Mozambican Agriculture Minister Joao Ferreira and Internal Trade Minister Aranda da Silva, as well as visiting Maputo port. The delegation arrived yesterday on a fact-finding mission to study the effects of South African destabilization on Mozambique.

At a meeting yesterday afternoon, they were briefed by Economic Affairs Minister Jacinto Veloso on the consequences for Mozambique's economic and social development of 20 years of war. Mr Veloso referred to aggression against the Mozambican people, from the armed struggle to preindependence, through the attacks by the Smith regime, to the current destabilization by South Africa by means of direct aggression and the use of armed bandits. He also explained the government's attempt to create a climate of peace and coexistance in southern Africa and stressed Mozambique's continuing political, diplomatic, and moral support for the struggle of the South African people led by the ANC.

The ACP group comprises 64 African, Caribbean, and Pacific countries linked to the European Community under the Lome Convention. Mozambique has not signed the convention, but it is taking part in talks aimed at drawing up a new convention.

NAMIBIA

U.S. Said To Consider Linkage Issue 'Dead'

MB160935 Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 16 Feb 84 p 8

[By Simon Barber]

[Text] Washington — Consider the following propositions: A. Cuban withdrawal from Angola is far in the future; B. South Africa is no longer prepared to shoulder the tremendous financial burden of Namibia alone; C. South Africa agrees with the United States position that Cuban withdrawal is a prerequisite for implementation of United Nations Resolution 435.

Taken individually, each makes perfect sense. Strung together, as they were by the prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, in his January 31 speech to Parliament and subsequent press conference, they are deeply inconsistent. If A is true, then either B or C must be false.

A, surely, is incontrovertible. As for B, could so bold and self-evident an admission really be frivolous, or open to sly interpretation?

Even if the estimated R1000-million the South African taxpayer will have to fork out over this year for the defence and maintenance of territory is a mild exaggeration, the grosso modo figure speaks for itself.

C is the culprit. Its deceptiveness is the clue to Washington's sudden, feverish burst of diplomatic energy and to the renewed, albeit cautious, talk of breakthrough.

Bluntly, linkage is dead. The fact is that the United States, as embodied by Dr Chester Crocker, the assistant secretary of state for Africa, no longer endorses the position that Cuban withdrawal is a prerequisite for Namibian independence. As a senior State Department official rather coyly put it last week: "It is ludicrous to say that the United States position is that all Cuban troops should leave before anything else happens."

If, therefore, Mr Botha really does support the current United States position — rather than the old and "ludicrous" one — he, too, has accepted a startling modification in what, heretofore, has been the reef upon which the negotiations foundered.

The State Department evidently believes he has done just that. Again, the coy official: "It remains our view (more correctly 'we now think') that the United Nations secretary-general's report back in August is an accurate statement (when slightly reinterpreted) of South Africa's position that it is prepared to decolonise Namibia in the context of a commitment by the Angolans to withdraw the Cubans."

How much this really means is obscure because, to get this far, Dr Crocker has had to strip the English language of its spine. Temporal and conditional relationships (as in "when X, then Y" or "if A, then B") have been completely discarded. The actions that will bring about Namibian independence must now occur merely "within the context of an overall settlement."

It may well be that when the time comes for vague undertakings to be formally undertaken, the various parties will decide they were misunderstood. Nevertheless, it takes more than a little sophistry to argue that a "commitment to withdraw the Cubans" is the same as 30,000 or so armed interlopers actually going home.

Unless the diplomats have utterly debauched the language, a major concession emerged from Dr Crocker's trip to Cape Town at the end of last month. The trigger for that concession was, of course, South Africa's announcement in December that it would begin a unilateral disengagement from southern Angola on a trial basis, starting on Janauary 31.

Perhaps the trial was supposed to fail, but Dr Crocker was determined to see that it didn't. In this he had three things working for him: Mozambique, the Soviet Union and a trump card only a conservative administration could play.

President Samora Machel's willingness to negotiate detente with Pretoria showed that even hardline Soviet proxies could become amenable, even to the extent of expelling the ANC. Relations of a sort could develop beneath the ideological rhetoric and despite the continued presence of Communist Bloc nationals.

If South Africa could talk usefully to Mozambique, then why not Angola? The Soviet Union did its bit by merely showing an interest. It informed Pretoria (warned is too strong) that it was not prepared to see the MPLA beaten up and then introduced some fairly run of the mill anti-aircraft missiles to prove its point.

The message was very plain: If SAM-9s could knock down American bombers over Lebanon they could readily neturalise South Africa's limited airpower over southern Angola, rendering long-term engagement intolerably risky.

By itself, this might have prompted hotter heads in the laager to take Israeli-style pre-emptive action whatever the cost, and despite growing political disenchantment at home.

To block such a response and promote, instead, the Mozambique option, the Reagan administration decided to do what even President Carter had eschewed and offered diplomatic recognition to the MPLA without the Cuban strings attached.

The Angolan response, which Dr Crocker's deputy, Mr Frank Wisner, appears to have received on Cape Verde a few days before the Cape Town talks, enabled the United States to assure Mr Botha that the MPLA would not only accept the disengagement, but would also use its good and other offices to dissuade SWAPO from interfering.

Mr Botha — partly assured, partly cornered by military and fiscal circumstances, partly buoyed by his post-referendum political invigoration — then agreed to reconsider his previously immutable insistence on total Cuban withdrawal.

If further evidence were needed that Washington had offered to recognise the MPLA, the Prime Minister then announced that tripartite United States-South African-Angolan talks were a possibility.

SWAPO, meanwhile — evidently weighing endless guerrilla warfare against its excellent chances of electoral victory — agreed, though ambiguously, to string along.

The frontline leaders whom Dr Crocker also saw now had reason to be cooperative.

The situation, as Dr Crocker himself would be the first to admit, is perilously fluid, and couched in language to match.

Early recognition of Angola, if it comes to that, will be denounced by many in Mr Reagan's own party as hypocrisy — which is one reason the State Department is saying only it will occur "within the context," etc — and there is still no guarantee that the disengagement will hold.

It is significant, for example, that Under Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger should mention, as he did on Sunday, that southern Africa might be one area the United States could fruitfully discuss with the new Kremlin leadership. No one really knows that attitude the Soviets will take to the developing scenario.

Which leaves, finally, the most important wild card of them all...Dr Jonas Savimbi. Asked whether he had been contacted, the senior official would only say: "If it is taking place, and I can't rule out that it is, we aren't the ones doing it."

Well-armed, successful — if as yet incapable of strategic victory — opportunist and, should all go according to plan, deserted by his closest ally, does the rebel leader simply fade away? No, according to the United States view, his differences with the soveriegn MPLA government become a domestic matter to be resolved once the "broader issues" are out of way.

SOUTH AFRICA

39 Families Moved From Magopa; Press Restricted

MB152005 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1956 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Johannesburg, Feb 15, SAPA — Operations to remove the Bakwena-ba-Mogopa tribe are expected to be completed by Friday when the last of the villagers will be taken to Pachsdraai. Today 39 families had already been moved, while 35 others had asked permission to be allowed to arrange their own transport to be taken to their paramount chief's place in Bethanie. In addition, representatives of the British and United States Governments went to the scene yesterday to keep a watching brief on the situation.

Today only black reporters and photographers from Johannesburg morning and afternoon newspapers were allowed to enter the village under police escort for the purpose of taking photographs and getting interviews. Three black security police also escorted the journalists and listened in to conversations held between them and villagers. Major Alfons Scheepers said that no white journalists were allowed in the area except with the permission of the commissioner of co-operation and development of Ventersdorp.

White South African pressmen and those representing the foreign press and TV tried to get permission to enter the village from the commissioner, but their requests were turned down. At Pachsdraai no journalists were allowed into the area and a team of police in a huge van turned them back about 2 kilometres from the entrance of the village.

Major Scheepers, who was heading the removal operation in the area, today said there have been no disturbances, no physical resistance, no arrests been made and no damage done to the people's properties. He said: "We have set up an operational office in the area and the reason why the police are here is to give protection to the local people and representatives of the government's departments. We have about 85 police going in and out and patrolling the village because the people need to be protected. Right now the people are moving peacefully and voluntarily and we keep in the village in case they need our help. And up till now we have not demolished any of the people's properties because the department concerned will deal with that."

He said the village has not been declared an operational area, but the tents that have been put up at the entrance of the village were operational offices. He told journalists that "Magopa village was in a trust area, which made it only possible for blacks to have the right to enter the village but under escort."

Today six privately-owned lories moved people who had opted to go to Bethanie at a charge of R300 a load.

Meanwhile, a diplomatic representative of the British Government had gone to Magopa, and it was also reported a representative of the U.S. Government had also visited the area, but this could not be confirmed. The Dutch Embassy was keeping the Dutch Government informed about developments at the town. All three governments have previously expressed their strong opposition to forced removals.

Today, the Black Sash reported that all the families in Magopa who have not yet been moved, were today placed under house arrest. Families were prohibited from communicating with one another. "The recognised leader of Magopa, Mr Issac More and his family, have been moved. Some people are resisting," a spokesman for the Black Sash said.

A spokesman for the Police Public Relations Directorate today also denied that the area has been declared an "operational area" and said all whites have been prohibited to enter Magopa in terms of Section 9(B) of the Urban Areas Consolidation Act, which requires all whites to have passes before entering a non-white area.

Mr John Hadley, press officer for the British embassy, said from Cape Town that a representative from the embassy in Pretoria had been sent down to monitor the removal of people from Magopa to Pachsdraai in Bophuthatswana.

A spokesman for the U.S. Information Services said she believed that a representative of the U.S. Government had been sent down. She said, however, that this could only be confirmed by the U.S. political attache, Mrs Betsy Spiro — who was unavailable to comment. She is expected back at the embassy today.

Mr Hendrik Bentinck, charge d'affaires at the Dutch Embassy in Pretoria, said they have taken notice of the removals "with concern." He said the situation at Mogopa is being closely monitored and his government will be informed of developments.

A spokesman for the Department of Co-operation and Development said no immediate statements would be forthcoming. The spokesman said the police were within their rights to arrest people who resisted removal in terms of the state president's order. Enquiries about allegations that people were beaten should be referred to the police, the spokesman said.

Bishop Desmond Tutu, general-secretary of the South African Council of Churches, said he had sent telegrammes of protest to both the prime minister and Dr Piet Koornhof over the removal of people in Mogopa. He said that the goverment had acted very "slyly" in saying that they were embarking on a programme of reform, when in fact they were only making cosmetic changes to apartheid as proved by the removals. He said that he understood that some of the 250 families in Mogopa had been removed at

gunpoint and that the roofs of some of the houses of the families had been taken off.

According to the head of Bophutatswana-TV news, Mr Richard Minton, at least two foreign cameramen had film confiscated. Mr Minto said the Bop-TV crew had been issued with instructions not to defy anyone before they left Bophutatswana. When they arrived outside the village, they were told by police that if they attempted to go through the barricades, they faced arrest, he said. The crew filmed only South African Government trucks and were not arrested. Mr Minton said he understood a UPI photo-journalist, Mr Roger Harris, and Mr Jeremy Gordon, a British television cameraman, had film confiscated.

Families Under House Arrest

MB160744 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] The Black Sash says families in Magopa have been placed under house arrest. A Black Sash spokesperson says all families who have not yet been moved have been prohibited from communicating with one another. Government officials have moved the recognized leader of the people, Isaac More, along with 39 other families. They have been taken to Pachsdraai on the outskirts of Bophuthatswana. The government says the removals would have been completed by Friday. Some residents have hired private lorries to take them to (Bethany), an area they have chosen in preference to Pachsdraai.

Opposition Parties Win Parliament By-Elections

MB160655 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] Opposition parties have won the two parliamentary by-elections held in South Africa yesterday. In the Pinetown constituency in the Natal Province the Progressive Federal Party won the seat from the New Republic Party by a majority of 880 votes. In the Soutpansberg constituency in the Northern Transvaal Province the Conservative Party won the seat from the ruling National Party by 497 votes.

Commission Presents Report on SACC in Parliament

MB151812 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] The commission of inquiry into the South African Council of Churches [SACC] says the council supports revolutionary change in South Africa. The commission, under the chairmanship of Mr Justice C.F. Eloff, found that the SACC has distanced itself significantly from its constituent members. According to the commission, the council is involved in an extensive campaign of civil disobedience, and the disinvestment of foreign funds in South Africa. It also supports those avoiding compulsory military service, and the commission sees this as potentially destabilizing and not in the national interest.

The commission's report was tabled in Parliament by the minister of justice, Mr Kobie Coetzee. The commissioners found that the SACC is increasingly identyfing or aligning with what is termed the liberation struggle. Disinvolvement and the council's policies and strategies are intended to obstruct the government's declared endeavour to effect change by evolutionary development. The commission warns member churches that the confrontational stance of the SACC has hardened over the years, and that, should this tendency increase, the state may feel obliged to apply restrictive measures.

SACC Head Scores Report

MB151818 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1700 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] Desmond Tutu has slammed the Eloff commission report. The report on the South African Council of Churches [SACC] was tabled in Parliament today. It found the SACC had opted for revolutionary change in South Africa. Tutu, who is the general secretary of the SACC, attacked the very basis of the commission at a news conference in Johannesburg:

[Begin Tutu recording] We do not believe that any secular authority has the competence to determine how church is to be church, and we will go on doing our work until that is made utterly impossible. The commission did not boast a single professional theologian in its membership, so how could it be expected to pass fair judgment on an organism, an organization whose every reason for existence is theological, from beginning to end? It really was like asking, speaking respectfully, a group of blind men to judge the Chelsea flower show. [end recording]

ZAMBIA

Government Closes University of Zambia Campus

AB161226 Paris AFP in English 1138 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] Lusaka, Feb 16 (AFP) — The government of President Kenneth Kaunda today closed the University of Zambia's Lusaka campus, following a violent demonstration by students Tuesday. Zambian Minister of Higher Education Rajah Kunda ordered military police to set up roadblocks at the campus entrances and sent buses to evacuate the 3,000 students.

Yesterday the military surrounded the campus where classes had been cancelled to keep the students inside the university grounds. Students heckled the police, but no serious incidents were reported. One student has died in hospital after he jumped from a second-story window on Tuesday in panic at the arrival of the paramilitary police, according to a student source.

Officials have not issued an estimate of damage caused by the some 2,000 students who rampaged through Lusaka's streets, burning seven vehicles and shouting anti-government slogans, and police have not announced how many students have been arrested. The university had expelled seven students, including student union President Azwell Banda, and suspended 18 other students. Zambian Prime Minister Nalumino Mundia told Parliament that the government will help university officials enforce student discipline.

The students had complained about dining hall restrictions and rules forbidding females to be in male dormitories past 10 p.m. The students began demonstrating Tuesday morning after police staged a dawn raid on the campus and arrested student activists. Tension had grown between the government and students since December when the government cut off payment of student grants worth about 84 dollars per term. The cutback in student financial support caused disturbances that forced the government to close the university two days early before the Christmas break.

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe Urges Planting of Drought-Resistant Crops

MB151908 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 15 Feb 84

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, says 1984 is going to be another difficult year and has called on the nation to start planning now to avert a disaster. Addressing 400 black businessmen and professional people at the University of Zimbabwe today, Comrade Mugabe said most parts of the country have received little rain, and crops — especially maize — are wilting. He said it is time Zimbabweans started thinking seriously on cultivating drought-resistant crops like [word indistinct], sorghum and beans. In a special note to the businessmen, he emphasized the importance of putting maximum efforts so that their enterprises can succeed. He expressed the government's desire to see blacks rising from their present role as mere traders to that of manufacturers. Comrade Mugabe said he is aware of the shortage of foreign currency, the lack of (?land, and) and the rising cost (?last year). He said the matter will be taken up through the relevant [word indistinct] during the next session of Parliament. The prime minister also highlighted the role which the country's people have been playing during the nation's transformation towards socialism alongside the public sector. He called for [words indistinct] that provincial governments coordinate developments [words indistinct].

Information Minister Shamuyarira's U.S. Trip Viewed

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[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] Immediately after his heavy drubbing in London, the staunchest Marxist of them all, Nathan Shamuyarira, fled to Washington. He is allegedly there seeing high government officials and newspaper magnates with a view to redressing the so-called imbalances of their view of Zimbabwe. However, we have it on fairly firm authority that America under Ronald Reagan is not the same place as America under Jimmy Carter. Washington might still have some distance to cover in its views of Zimbabwe, but the capital is far more aware of the truth of the matter than the Brits are. In fact, at the time of broadcasting this program we do not know of a single high government official who has expressed any desire to see Nathan at all. As to his trying to make American newspapers follow in the shadow of his own dustbin liners, we believe he has crashed badly there as well. After all, Nathan has forgotten that America has a free press; and that same free press tries to tell us as it is, not as the government wants it to be. He has also forgotten that you can't call a country every name on earth when you are at home and then try to snuggle up with it when you are abroad.

Even as he makes his mumbling way about Washington, his own magazine *THE ZIMBABWE NEWS*, official organ of the party, is tearing America to pieces. Let us not forget that Nathan Shamuyarira is the editor of this journalistic nightmare. So what he says there reveals blatantly his own feelings on the subject. Does he believe for a moment that the American Embassy in Harare has not read this journal and transmitted its contents home to Washington?

In case you have not read the January 1984 issue's editorial, let us extract a few digs at America for you: The U.S. is notorious for using big-arm tactics whenever it does not get its own way. And there is another literary gem, I quote: We will resist any attempt to turn us into a neocolonial puppet state. And, finally: Of late the U.S. has indicated that it will withdraw from UNESCO because it believes the organization is not featuring policies compatable with U.S. opinion. With this withdrawal goes 25 percent of UNESCO's sponsorship. If this is not blackmail, then nothing else is, unquote.

In light of Shamuyarira's quick slip to the United States, we asked one of our political staff members to draw a report up for us. As we all know, our hardline Marxist minister of misinformation has made a hasty begging bowl tour of Washington. He stated that the official reason for his visit was to correct the bad image his party has in America. In reality, Shamuyarira is bent on obscuring the past, fudging the present, and hiding the future of events in Zimbabwe. As usual, his first onslaught was again against South Africa, blaming South Africa for everything that goes wrong in Zimbabwe. He even blamed Mugabe's determination to establish a one-party state on Pretoria, saying that such a move in Zimbabwe is in reaction to South Africa's policy. Of course his job was made easier with questioners who don't know the real truth and thus the correct questions to throw at him. However, there is one point to make in all this. Shamuyarira has obtained virtually nothing from America, and certainly he attached very little sympathy for his cause. Many of the questions that were asked met with replies that could be refuted on the spot.

We understand that Shamuyarira had many an uncomfortable moment in America, and there are more discomforts to come. Right now it would appear that almost certain that Ronald Reagan will be the president again next year, and he has absolutely no time for communists. Zimbabwe's recent trade agreements with Russia, its exhortations to Zimbabwe to think Russian, his love affair with the communist world, have all been a snap in the eye to America. The Americans are fully aware of Zimbabwe's neutrality and its story of nonalignment, and certainly they are not going to fall over themselves playing host to an overt enemy. It is our contention that there will be a very few visits paid to the United States by our leaders over the next 4 years. We're simply neutralising ourselves into the position of being personae non gratae in Washington.